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# MUTATION OF FRIEZES

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ABSTRACT. We study mutations of Conway-Coxeter friezes which are compatible with mutations of cluster-tilting objects in the associated cluster category of Dynkin type  $A$ . More precisely, we provide a formula, relying solely on the shape of the frieze, describing how each individual entry in the frieze changes under cluster mutation. We observe how the frieze can be divided into four distinct regions, relative to the entry at which we want to mutate, where any two entries in the same region obey the same mutation rule. Moreover, we provide a combinatorial formula for the number of submodules of a string module, and with that a simple way to compute the frieze associated to a fixed cluster-tilting object in a cluster category of Dynkin type  $A$  in the sense of Caldero and Chapoton.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Coxeter introduced friezes in [Cox71] in the early 1970's, inspired by Gauss's *pentagramma mirificum*. A frieze is a grid of positive integers, with a finite number of infinite rows, where the top and bottom rows are bi-infinite repetition of 0s and the second to top and the second to bottom row are bi-infinite repetitions of 1s

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc}
 \dots & & 0 & & 0 & & 0 & & 0 & & \dots \\
 & 1 & & 1 & & 1 & & 1 & & 1 & \\
 \dots & & m_{-1,-1} & & m_{00} & & m_{11} & & m_{22} & & \dots \\
 & m_{-2,-1} & & m_{-1,0} & & m_{01} & & m_{12} & & m_{23} & \\
 \dots & & \dots & & \dots & & \dots & & \dots & & \dots \\
 & 1 & & 1 & & 1 & & 1 & & 1 & \\
 \dots & & 0 & & 0 & & 0 & & 0 & & \dots
 \end{array}$$

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satisfying the *frieze rule*: for every set of adjacent numbers arranged in a *diamond*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & b & \\ a & & d \\ & c & \end{array}$$

we have

$$ad - bc = 1.$$

Every frieze is uniquely determined by its quiddity sequence, that is the sequence  $(m_{ii})_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  of integers in the third row (the first non-trivial row) of the frieze. Moreover, it is invariant under a glide reflection and thus periodic. The *order of the frieze* is one less than the number of rows. If the order is  $n$ , then the frieze is necessarily  $n$ -periodic.

Coxeter conjectured that friezes are in bijection with triangulations of convex polygons – a result that was proven shortly thereafter by Conway and Coxeter in [CC73a] and [CC73b]: Friezes of order  $n$  are in bijection with triangulations of a convex  $n$ -gon. This provides a first link to cluster combinatorics of Dynkin type  $A$ . Indeed, the theory of friezes has gained fresh momentum in the last decade in relation to cluster theory, as observed by Caldero and Chapoton [CC06].

Cluster algebras were introduced by Fomin and Zelevinsky in [FZ02]. They are commutative rings with a certain combinatorial structure. The basic set-up of a cluster algebra is the following: We have a distinguished set of generators, called *cluster variables*, which can be grouped into overlapping sets of a fixed cardinality, called *clusters*. A process called *mutation* allows us to jump from one cluster to another by replacing one cluster variable by a unique other cluster variable. To construct a cluster algebra, we start with an *initial cluster* and some combinatorial rule, for our purposes encoded in a quiver  $Q$  without loops or two-cycles, which determines how to mutate clusters. By iterated mutation of our initial cluster we then obtain every cluster variable of our cluster algebra after finitely many steps.

A particularly well-behaved example of cluster algebras are cluster algebras of Dynkin type  $A$ . They are of finite type, that is, there are only finitely many clusters. In fact, clusters in the cluster algebra of Dynkin type  $A_{n-3}$  are in bijection with triangulations of a convex  $n$ -gon ( $n \geq 3$ ). That is, we obtain a bijection between clusters in the cluster algebra of Dynkin type  $A_{n-3}$  and friezes of order  $n$ .

The goal of this paper is to complete the picture of cluster combinatorics in the context of friezes. More precisely, we determine how mutation of a cluster affects the associated frieze, thus effectively introducing the notion of a mutation of friezes that is compatible with mutation in the associated cluster algebra. This provides a useful new tool to study cluster combinatorics of Dynkin type  $A$ .

We approach this problem via (generalized) cluster categories. Cluster categories associated to finite dimensional hereditary algebras were introduced by Buan, Marsh, Reineke, Reiten and Todorov [BMR<sup>+</sup>06a] as certain orbit categories of the bounded derived category of the hereditary algebra; a generalized version for algebras of global dimension 2 has been introduced by Amiot [Ami09]. Cluster categories are certain triangulated categories which mirror the combinatorial behaviour of the associated cluster algebras. The role of cluster variables is taken on by the indecomposable objects, while clusters correspond to the so-called *cluster-tilting objects*. There exists a notion of mutation of cluster-tilting objects, which formally relies on the category's triangulated structure. Briefly put, mutation replaces an indecomposable summand of a cluster-tilting object by a unique other indecomposable object such that we again get a cluster-tilting object.

Caldero and Chapoton [CC06] have provided a formal link between cluster categories and cluster algebras by introducing what is now most commonly known as the *Caldero Chapoton map* or *cluster character*. Fixing a cluster-tilting object (which takes on the role of the initial cluster), it associates to each indecomposable in the cluster category a unique

cluster variable in the associated cluster algebra, sending the indecomposable summands in the cluster-tilting object to the initial cluster. Postcomposing the Caldero Chapoton map with the specialization of all initial cluster variables to one gives rise to the *specialized Caldero Chapoton map*, whose values are positive integers.

Let now  $\mathcal{C}$  be a cluster category of Dynkin type  $A$ , that is  $\mathcal{C} = D^b(kQ)/\tau^{-1}[1]$  where  $Q$  is an orientation of a Dynkin diagram of type  $A$ ,  $\tau$  denotes the Auslander-Reiten translation and  $[1]$  denotes the suspension in the bounded derived category  $D^b(kQ)$ . The specialized Caldero Chapoton map allows us to jump directly from the cluster category with a fixed cluster-tilting object  $T$  to a frieze  $F(T)$ : For each vertex of the Auslander-Reiten quiver of  $\mathcal{C}$  we pick a representant of the associated isomorphism class of indecomposable objects and label each vertex in the Auslander-Reiten quiver of  $\mathcal{C}$  by the image of this representant under the specialized Caldero Chapoton map. Completing accordingly with rows of 0s and 1s at the top and bottom this yields a frieze, cf. [CC06, Proposition 5.2].

Fixing a cluster-tilting object  $T$  in  $\mathcal{C}$ , we consider the associated cluster-tilted algebra  $B_T = \text{End}(T)$ . It has been shown by Buan, Marsh and Reiten that there is an equivalence of categories  $\mathcal{C}/\text{add}(T[1]) \cong \text{mod}(B_T)$ . Each indecomposable object in  $\mathcal{C}$  thus either lies in  $T[1]$  and can be viewed as the suspension of an indecomposable projective  $B_T$ -module, or it can be identified with a unique indecomposable  $B_T$ -module. The specialized Caldero Chapoton map sends each indecomposable summand of  $T[1]$  to 1 and each indecomposable  $B_T$ -module  $M$  to the sum, taken over dimension vectors of submodules of  $M$ , of the Euler-Poincaré characteristic of the Grassmannians of submodules of  $M$  of a given dimension vector. Since in our setting all modules are string modules, all Grassmannians appearing in this sum are points. Hence, the specialized Caldero Chapoton map sends an indecomposable  $B_T$ -module to the number of its submodules. The frieze  $F(T)$  associated to the cluster-tilting object  $T$  thus has entries of 1 in the positions of the vertices associated to indecomposable summands of  $T[1]$  and all the other entries (that do not lie in the mandatory rows of 0s and 1s at the top and bottom) are given by the number of submodules of the indecomposable  $B_T$ -module sitting in the same position in the Auslander-Reiten quiver of  $\mathcal{C}$ .

Understanding the Caldero Chapoton map in Dynkin type  $A$  thus amounts to knowing the number of submodules of  $B_T$ -modules where  $B_T$  is cluster-tilted algebra of Dynkin type  $A$ . In Theorem 4.6, our first main result, we provide a combinatorial formula for the number of submodules of any given indecomposable  $B_T$ -module: Each  $B_T$ -module is a string module and hence has a description in terms of the lengths of the individual legs. If  $(k_1, \dots, k_m)$  are these lengths for an indecomposable  $M$ , then the number  $s(M)$  of submodules of  $M$  is given by

$$s(M) = 1 + \sum_{j=0}^m \sum_{|I|=m-j} \prod_{i \in I} k_i$$

where the second sum runs over all admissible subsets  $I$  of  $\{1, \dots, m\}$  (for details see Section 4). This formula relies on the shape  $(k_1, \dots, k_m)$  of the module, which in turn can be directly read off from its position in the Auslander-Reiten quiver of the cluster category, and allows for a straight-forward combinatorial way to compute the number of submodules of any string module, and in particular, obtain the frieze associated to a given cluster-tilting object in  $\mathcal{C}$ . It has been brought to our attention that parallel to our work, [CS16] established a formula for the number of submodules in the context of snake graphs and continued fractions.

Assume now that our cluster-tilting object  $T$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  is of the form  $T = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n T_i$ , where the  $T_i$  are mutually non-isomorphic indecomposable objects. Mutating  $T$  at  $T_i$  for some  $1 \leq i \leq n$  yields a new cluster tilting object  $T' = T/T_i \oplus T'_i$ , to which we can associate a new frieze  $F(T')$ . In terms of the frieze, we can think of this mutation as a mutation at an entry of value 1, namely the one sitting in the position of the indecomposable object  $T_i[1]$ .

We describe how, using graphic calculus, we can obtain each entry of the frieze  $F(T')$  independently and directly from the frieze  $F(T)$ , thus effectively introducing the concept of mutations of friezes at entries of value 1 that do not lie in the second or second-to-last row of 1s. Our second main result in this paper, Theorem 6.12 provides an explicit formula of how each entry in the frieze  $F(T)$  changes under mutation at the entry corresponding to  $T_i$ . We observe that each frieze can be divided into four separate regions, relative to the entry of value 1 at which we want to mutate. Each of these regions gets affected differently by mutation. Theorem 6.12 provides an explicit formula, relying solely on the shape of the frieze and the entry at which we mutate, that determines how each entry of the frieze individually changes under mutation.

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## 2. DESCRIPTION OF THE MODULES

In this section we describe the objects in the cluster categories associated to the quivers  $Q$  of type  $A_n$ , which will include quivers mutation equivalent to  $A_n$ . More precisely, we describe the structure of the indecomposable modules depending on their position in the Auslander-Reiten quivers of the cluster categories.

First we review the definition and some basic properties of the cluster category  $\mathcal{C}_Q$  associated to an acyclic quiver  $Q$  [BMR<sup>+</sup>06a], cf. also [CCS06] where a construction of the modules and Auslander-Reiten quivers for cluster-tilted algebras of type A have been given. After that we consider quivers  $Q'$  which are mutation equivalent to the quivers of type  $A_n$  and which may have nontrivial potential  $W$ . In that case we consider generalized cluster categories  $\mathcal{C}_{(Q',W)}$ , which are shown to be triangle equivalent to  $\mathcal{C}_Q$  [Ami09].

### 2.1. Acyclic quivers: cluster categories and AR quivers.

Let  $Q = (Q_0, Q_1)$  be a finite quiver, with vertices  $Q_0 = \{1, \dots, n\}$  and arrows  $Q_1$ . Recall that for any finite quiver  $Q$  with no oriented cycles, the cluster category  $\mathcal{C}_Q$  is defined

as the orbit category  $\mathcal{D}^b(kQ)/\tau^{-1}[1]$  where  $\mathcal{D}^b(kQ)$  is the associated derived category of bounded complexes,  $[1]$  is the shift functor in the triangulated category  $\mathcal{D}^b(kQ)$  and  $\tau$  is the Auslander-Reiten translation functor. It is possible to choose representatives of the indecomposable objects in  $\mathcal{C}_Q$  to be the indecomposable  $kQ$ -modules and shifts of the indecomposable projective  $kQ$ -modules, i.e.  $\text{ind } \mathcal{C}_Q$  can be viewed as  $\text{ind}(kQ) \cup \{P_i[1]\}_{i=1}^n$ ; here  $P_i$  is the projective cover of the simple  $S_i$ , and simple  $S_i$  is the module/representation supported at the vertex  $i$ .

The Auslander-Reiten (AR) quiver for  $\text{mod}(kQ)$  is defined as: vertices correspond to (iso-classes of) indecomposable objects, and arrows between vertices correspond to irreducible map between the associated objects (in general there might be several arrows, however for the quivers mutation equivalent to  $A_n$  there will be at most one arrow); the mesh relations correspond to AR sequences in  $\text{mod}(kQ)$ . We now recall one of the basic theorems about almost split sequences, which will be used in both the acyclic and mutation equivalent to acyclic case.

**Theorem 2.1.** [AR77] *Let  $\Lambda$  be an artin algebra.*

(a) *Let  $P$  be an indecomposable projective, not injective  $\Lambda$ -module and let  $P_t$  be the indecomposable projective modules such that  $P$  is isomorphic to a direct summand of  $\text{rad } P_t$ . Then there exists an almost split sequence (AR sequence):*

$$0 \rightarrow P \rightarrow \tau^{-1}(\text{rad } P) \oplus (\oplus P_t) \rightarrow \tau^{-1}P \rightarrow 0.$$

(b) *Consider the AR sequence, where  $B, C$  have no injective summands and  $I$  is injective:  $0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow B \oplus I \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$ . Then  $0 \rightarrow \tau^{-1}A \rightarrow \tau^{-1}B \oplus (\oplus P_t) \rightarrow \tau^{-1}C \rightarrow 0$  is an almost split sequence where the  $P_t$  are the indecomposable projectives such that  $\tau^{-1}A$  is isomorphic to a direct summand of  $\text{rad } P_t$ .*

As a special case, when  $Q$  is acyclic quiver, and hence  $kQ$  is hereditary algebra, we have a more precise description as follows. If  $P_i$  is projective, not injective, then there is an almost split sequence (AR sequence):

$$0 \rightarrow P_i \rightarrow \tau^{-1}(\oplus_{t \in a(i)} P_t) \oplus (\oplus_{t' \in a'(i)} P_{t'}) \rightarrow \tau^{-1}P_i \rightarrow 0,$$

where  $a(i) := \{t \in Q_0 \mid \exists(t \leftarrow i) \in Q_1\}$  and  $a'(i) := \{t' \in Q_0 \mid \exists(i \leftarrow t') \in Q_1\}$ .

The AR quiver for the cluster category  $\mathcal{C}_Q$  is very closely related to the AR quiver of the module category  $\text{mod}(kQ)$  in the following sense: all AR sequences of  $kQ$ -modules are still AR triangles in the cluster category  $\mathcal{C}_Q$ . The only new objects are  $\{P_i[1]\}_{i=1}^n$  and the new AR triangles are the following. For each  $i \in Q_0$  let

$$I_i \rightarrow (\oplus_{t \in a(i)} P_t[1]) \oplus (\oplus_{t' \in a'(i)} I_{t'}) \rightarrow P_i[1] \rightarrow \quad (*)$$

$$P_i[1] \rightarrow (\oplus_{t \in a(i)} P_t) \oplus (\oplus_{t' \in a'(i)} P_{t'}[1]) \rightarrow P_i \rightarrow . \quad (**)$$

The triangles (\*) are the connecting triangles in the derived category  $\mathcal{D}^b(kQ)$  between  $\text{ind}(kQ)$  and  $\text{ind}(kQ)[1]$ , while the triangles (\*\*) are the new triangles which appear in the orbit category. (The modules  $I_i$  are injective envelopes of the simple modules  $S_i$ .)

## 2.2. Quivers with potential which are mutation equivalent to $A_n$ .

Cluster mutations of acyclic quivers, in general, do not produce another acyclic quiver, but instead quivers with potential are obtained. We will now describe the AR quiver of the cluster category of quivers with potential which are obtained by mutations of quivers of type  $A_n$ .

**Generalized cluster categories  $\mathcal{C}_{(Q,W)}$ :** Given a quiver  $Q$  with potential  $W$ , the generalized cluster category  $\mathcal{C}_{(Q,W)}$  is defined as the quotient category  $\text{per } \Gamma / D^b(\Gamma)$  where  $\Gamma$  is



the associated Ginzburg algebra which is a differential graded algebra,  $\text{per}\Gamma$  is the category of complexes of projective  $\Gamma$ -modules, and  $D^b(\Gamma)$  is the category of differential graded  $\Gamma$ -modules with finite cohomology. While this description of this category is somewhat complicated, there is a beautiful theorem of Amiot, about the triangulated equivalence.

**Theorem 2.2.** [Ami09] *Let  $Q$  be an acyclic quiver. Let  $(\mu Q, W)$  be the quiver with potential obtained after mutation  $\mu$  of  $Q$ . Then the generalized cluster category  $\mathcal{C}_{(\mu Q, W)}$  is triangle equivalent to the cluster category  $\mathcal{C}_Q$ .*

This theorem tells us that the cluster category obtained after mutation still has the same AR quiver. However we need more precise description of the objects of the new cluster category. In order to do that we now recall the definition of mutation.

**Mutations:** A mutation of a cluster-tilting object in the cluster category  $\mathcal{C}_Q$  corresponds to the mutation of the quiver of the endomorphism algebra of the corresponding cluster-tilting objects. We recall that an object  $T$  in the cluster category  $\mathcal{C}_Q$  is called *cluster-tilting object* if  $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}_Q}^1(T, T) = 0$  and  $T = \bigoplus_{j=1}^n T_j$ , with  $T_j$  indecomposable and pairwise non-isomorphic. Notice that  $n = |Q_0|$ .

**Definition 2.3.** Let  $T = \bigoplus_{j=1}^n T_j$  be a cluster-tilting object in a cluster category  $\mathcal{C}_Q$ . A *mutation of  $T$  in direction  $i$*  is a new cluster-tilting object  $\mu_i T = T/T_i \oplus T'_i$  where  $T'_i$  is defined as the pseudokernel of the right  $\text{add}(T/T_i)$ -approximation of  $T_i$  or pseudocokernel of the left  $\text{add}(T/T_i)$ -approximation of  $T_i$ :

$$\rightarrow T'_i \rightarrow B \xrightarrow{f_i} T_i \rightarrow \quad \text{or} \quad \rightarrow T_i \xrightarrow{f_i} B' \rightarrow T'_i \rightarrow .$$

Cluster mutation can also be viewed as a mutation of quivers: for each cluster-tilting object  $T$ , let  $B_T := \text{End}_{\mathcal{C}_Q}(T)$  and let  $Q_T$  be the quiver of  $B_T$ . It follows from [BIRS11, Theorem 5.1] that the quiver  $Q_{\mu_i T}$  of  $B_{\mu_i T} = \text{End}_{\mathcal{C}_Q}(\mu_i T)$  can be obtained from the quiver  $Q_T$  by applying DWZ-quiver mutation as in [DWZ08].

### 2.3. AR quivers for $\mathcal{C}_{(Q, W)}$ .

We now describe the AR quiver of the generalized cluster category  $\mathcal{C}_{(Q, W)}$  which is obtained after a sequence of mutations. We need to use the following theorem.

**Theorem 2.4.** [BMR07] *Let  $\mathcal{C}_{(Q, W)}$  be a generalized cluster category. Let  $T$  be a cluster-tilting object in  $\mathcal{C}_{(Q, W)}$  and let  $B_T := \text{End}_{\mathcal{C}_{(Q, W)}}(T)$ .*

- (1) *The functor  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}_{(Q, W)}}(T, -) : \mathcal{C}_{(Q, W)} \rightarrow \text{mod}(B_T)$  induces an equivalence of categories  $\mathcal{C}_{(Q, W)} / (\text{add } T[1]) \cong \text{mod}(B_T)$ ,*
- (2) *The kernel of  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}_{(Q, W)}}(T, -)$  is the subcategory  $\text{add}(T[1]) \subset \mathcal{C}_{(Q, W)}$ .*
- (3) *The modules  $\{\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}_{(Q, W)}}(T, T_j)\}_{j=1}^n$  form a complete set of non-isomorphic indecomposable projective  $B_T$ -modules.*

Using the above equivalence, the AR quiver of  $\text{mod } B_T$  can be viewed as a full subquiver of the AR quiver of  $\mathcal{C}_{(Q, W)}$ , however we need the following precise functorial correspondence between the cluster categories  $\mathcal{C}_{(Q, W)}$  and  $\mathcal{C}_{(Q', W')}$  which are related by a (sequence of) mutations. We write  $P_i$  for the indecomposable projectives of  $\mathcal{C}_{(Q, W)}$  and  $P'_i$  for the ones of  $\mathcal{C}_{(Q', W')}$ .

**Proposition 2.5.** *Let  $\mathcal{C}_{(Q, W)}$  and  $\mathcal{C}_{(Q', W')}$  be generalized cluster categories where  $(Q', W')$  is obtained after a sequence of DWZ-mutations. Let  $T$  be the cluster-tilting object obtained from  $\bigoplus_{j=1}^n P_j$  after the same sequence of cluster-tilting mutations. Then there is a triangulated functor  $\psi$  making*

the following commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathcal{C}_{(Q,W)} & \xrightarrow{\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}_{(Q,W)}}(T, -)} & \text{mod}(B_T) \\
 \uparrow \psi & \nearrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}_{(Q',W')}}(\oplus_{j=1}^n P'_j, -) & \\
 \mathcal{C}_{(Q',W')} & & 
 \end{array}$$

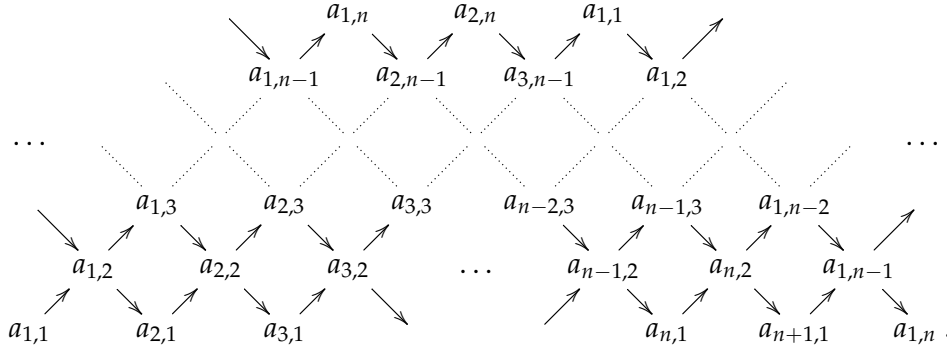
*Proof.* We first prove the statement for a single DWZ-mutation  $\mu_i$ . Let  $(Q', W') = \mu_i(Q, W)$  and  $T = \mu_i(\oplus_{j=1}^n P_j)$ . We need a triangulated functor  $\psi_i$  so that

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}_{(Q',W')}}(\oplus P'_j, -) = \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}_{(Q,W)}}(T, -) \cdot \psi_i,$$

i.e. such that  $\psi_i(P'_j) = P_j$  for  $j \neq i$  and  $\psi_i(P'_i) = \text{cone}(P_i \xrightarrow{f} \oplus P_t)$  where  $f$  is a minimal  $\text{add}(\oplus_{j \neq i} P_j)$ -approximation of  $P_i$ . Such a triangulated functor exists as a consequence of the Keller–Yang theorem [KY11]. They consider the corresponding Ginzburg algebras  $\Gamma$  and  $\Gamma'$  and prove existence of a triangulated functor  $\Psi_i : \text{per } \Gamma' \rightarrow \text{per } \Gamma$  such that  $\Psi_i(\Gamma' e'_j) = \Gamma e_j$  for  $j \neq i$  and  $\Psi_i(\Gamma' e'_i) = \text{cone}(\Gamma e_i \xrightarrow{F} \oplus \Gamma e_t)$  where  $F$  is a minimal  $\text{add}(\oplus_{j \neq i} \Gamma e_j)$ -approximation of  $\Gamma e_i$ . It is also shown that  $\Psi_i$  restricts to a functor  $D^b(\Gamma') \rightarrow D^b(\Gamma)$ , inducing the desired functor  $\psi_i$  between the cluster categories.

In order to get the general statement apply the above argument to the given sequence of mutations.  $\square$

The AR quiver for the cluster category  $\mathcal{C}_{A_n}$  and any generalized cluster category mutation equivalent to  $A_n$  is of the following form:



*Remark 2.6.* Some properties of the AR quiver for the cluster categories  $\mathcal{C}_{(Q,W)}$ :

- (1) All of the objects encompassed by  $\{a_{1,1}, a_{1,n}, a_{2,n}, a_{n+1,1}\}$  are mutually non-isomorphic and form a fundamental domain.
- (2) Each maximal rectangle starting at the point  $a_{1,t}$  is bounded by the corners  $\{a_{1,t}, a_{1,n}, a_{t,1}, a_{t,n-t+1}\}$  and is contained entirely within the fundamental domain, hence all the points are distinct.
- (3) Each maximal rectangle starting at any point  $a_{s,t}$  can be viewed as starting at  $a_{1,t}$  by relabelling, and hence all the points within the rectangle are distinct.
- (4) All the points, within any rectangle starting at any point, are distinct.
- (5) Additional copies of the same points of the AR quiver are included in the above diagram, in order to be able to see and describe supports of the functors  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}_{(Q,W)}}(-, -)$  and  $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}_{(Q,W)}}^1(-, -)$ .

#### 2.4. Supports of Hom- and Ext- functors.

From this point on,  $\mathcal{C}$  will denote a generalized cluster category  $\mathcal{C}_{(Q,W)}$  of type  $A_n$ .



Even though it is known that all indecomposable modules over cluster-tilted algebras of type  $A_n$  are string modules ([ABCJP10, BR87]) we need to describe the precise shape of indecomposable modules depending on their relative position to the projectives in the AR quiver of  $\mathcal{C}$ . Since the indecomposable projective modules have no (non-trivial) extensions, the possible configurations of the projectives can be determined using the supports of the functors  $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}^1(P, -)$  which we now describe.

**Proposition 2.7.** *Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a generalized cluster category of type  $A_n$ . Let  $X, Y$  be indecomposable objects in  $\mathcal{C}$ . Then:*

- (1)  $\dim_K \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X, Y) \in \{0, 1\}$
- (2)  $\dim_K \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}^1(X, Y) \in \{0, 1\}$ .

*Proof.* (1) Since cluster-tilted algebras of type  $A_n$  are all of finite representation type, all the morphisms are linear combinations of compositions of irreducible maps and dimensions of the homomorphism spaces can be obtained from the AR quiver. We may let  $a_{1,t}$  be the point corresponding to the object  $X$ . Using the fact that

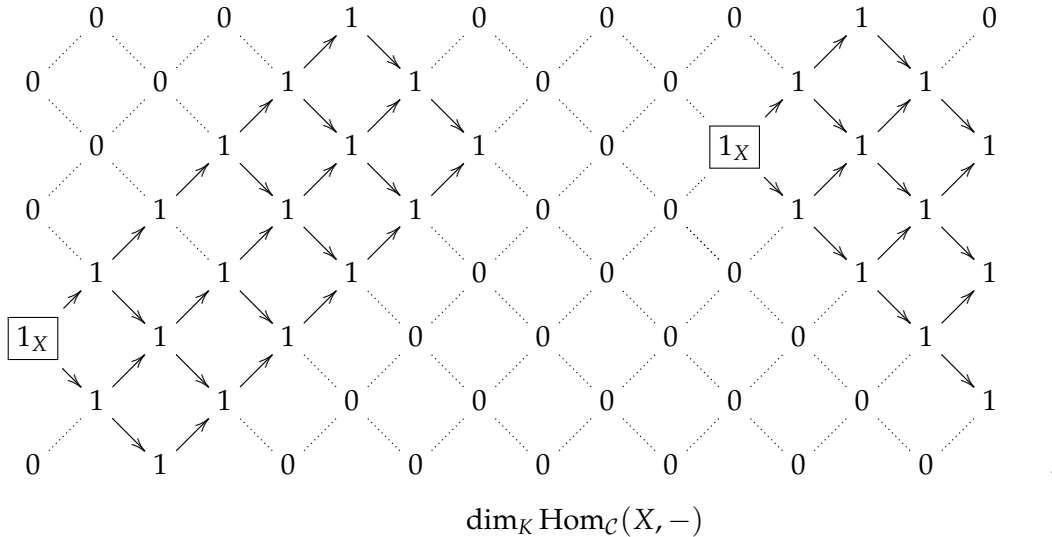
$$0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X, A) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X, B) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X, C) \rightarrow 0 \quad (*)$$

is exact for each indecomposable object  $X \not\cong C$  and each AR-triangle

$$\rightarrow A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow A[1] \rightarrow \quad (**)$$

it is possible to compute the dimensions of  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X, Y)$  for all indecomposable  $Y$ . The only non-zero homomorphisms, from the object at any point, are morphisms to the objects in the maximal rectangle starting at that point. This follows from (\*) and the fact that in the AR triangles (\*\*) the object  $B$  is indecomposable if  $A$  is on the edge of the AR quiver, and otherwise  $B \cong B_1 \oplus B_2$  with  $B_1, B_2$  both indecomposable.

Since all the points in the rectangle are distinct by Remark 2.6 (3), they correspond to distinct objects and the  $\dim_K \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X, Y)$  is a rectangle of 1's. For example if the object  $X$  is at the point  $a_{1,3}$  then the  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X, -)$  has dimensions:



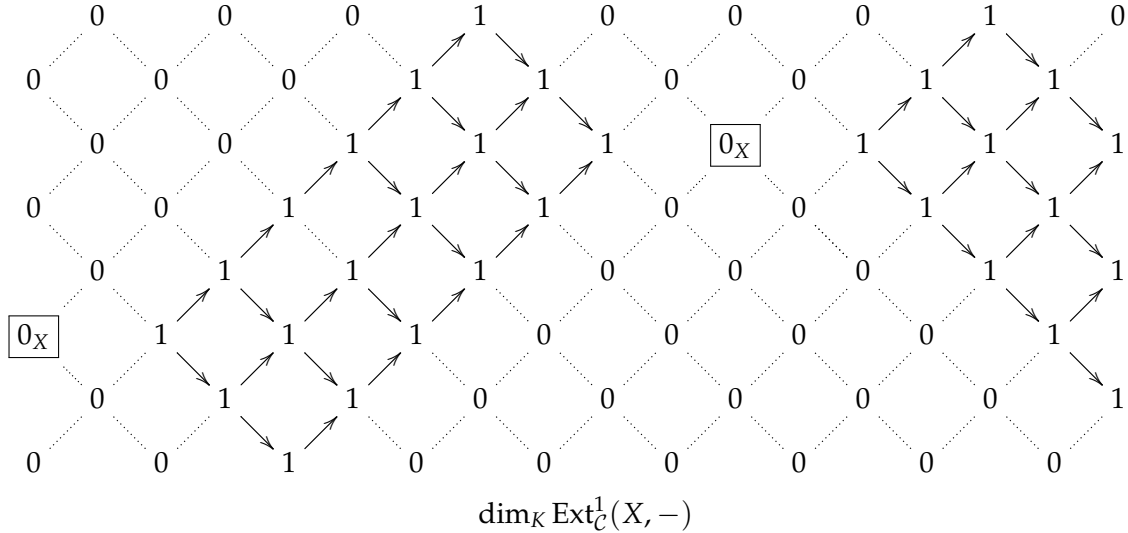
The point corresponding to the object  $X$  is indicated with  $\boxed{1_X}$  and it stands for  $\dim_K \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X, X) = 1$ . The other point labeled by  $\boxed{1_X}$  corresponds to the same object  $X$  but it appears again since a covering of the AR quiver is drawn.

(2) In order to prove the statement that  $\dim_K \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}^1(X, Y) \in \{0, 1\}$ , it is enough to use the isomorphism  $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}^1(X, Y) \cong D \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(\tau^{-1}Y, X)$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 2.8.** *Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a generalized cluster category of type  $A_n$ . Let  $X$  be an indecomposable object in  $\mathcal{C}$ . Then:*

- (1) *The support of  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X, -)$  consist of the objects corresponding to the points in the maximal rectangle starting at the point corresponding to  $X$ . Furthermore, the last point in the support of  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X, -)$  corresponds to  $\tau^2 X$ .*
- (2) *The support of  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(-, X)$  consist of the objects corresponding to the points in the maximal rectangle ending at the point corresponding to  $X$ . Furthermore, the first point in the support of  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(-, X)$  corresponds to  $\tau^{-2} X$ .*
- (3) *The support of  $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}^1(-, X)$  consist of the objects corresponding to the points in the maximal rectangle starting at the point corresponding to  $\tau^{-1} X$ . Furthermore, the last point in the support of  $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}^1(-, X)$  corresponds to  $\tau X$ .*
- (4) *The support of  $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}^1(X, -)$  consist of the objects corresponding to the points in the maximal rectangle ending at the point corresponding to  $\tau X$ . Furthermore, the first point in the support of  $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}^1(X, -)$  corresponds to  $\tau^{-1} X$ .*
- (5) *The support of  $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}^1(-, X)$  is the same as the support of  $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}^1(X, -)$ .*

*Proof.* (1) and (2) follow from the above diagram of  $\dim \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X, -)$  on the cover of AR quiver. (3), (4) and (5) follow from the following diagram of the  $\dim_K \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}^1(X, Y)$ .



The point corresponding to the object  $X$  is indicated with  $\boxed{0_X}$  and it stands for  $\dim_K \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}^1(X, X) = 0$ . The other point labeled by  $\boxed{0_X}$  corresponds to the same object  $X$  but it appears again since a covering of the AR quiver is drawn.  $\square$

## 2.5. Configurations and structure of projectives.

Since the indecomposable projective modules have no extensions, the possible configurations of the projectives can be determined using the supports of the functors  $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}^1(P, -)$ , i.e. avoiding maximal rectangles starting at  $\tau^{-1}P$ , which are the same as maximal rectangles ending at  $\tau P$  by Corollary 2.8 (3),(4),(5).

In order to describe modules using the AR quiver and configurations of projectives, we first recall some general facts for finite dimensional algebras.

*Remark 2.9.* Let  $\Lambda$  be a finite dimensional  $K$ -algebra. The multiplicity of the simple  $S_i$  as composition factor of a module  $M$  is equal to the length of  $\text{Hom}_{\Lambda}(P_i, M)$  as an  $\text{End}(P_i)^{op}$ -module, which in our case is equal to  $\dim_K \text{Hom}_{\Lambda}(P_i, M)$  since  $\text{End}(P_i)^{op} \cong K$  for all indecomposable projective modules  $P_i$ .

**Definition 2.10.** Let  $P_i, P_j$  be indecomposable projectives. A non-zero homomorphism  $\rho : P_i \rightarrow P_j$  is called *projectively irreducible* if it is not an isomorphism and for any factorization

$\rho = \beta\alpha$  with  $\alpha : P_i \rightarrow Q$  and  $\beta : Q \rightarrow P_j$  where  $Q$  is projective, one of the following holds: either  $\alpha$  is split monomorphism or  $\beta$  is split epimorphism.

**Lemma 2.11.** *Let  $\Lambda$  be a finite dimensional algebra and  $\rho : P_i \rightarrow P_j$  a projectively irreducible map. Then  $\text{Im } \rho \not\subset \text{rad}^2 P_j$ .*

*Proof.* If  $\text{Im } \rho$  were contained in  $\text{rad}^2 P_j$  there would be another projective in between the two, hence  $\rho$  would not be projectively irreducible.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.12.** *Let  $\Lambda$  be a finite dimensional algebra and  $\rho : P_i \rightarrow P_j$  projectively irreducible. Then*

- (1) *There exists a non-split sequence  $0 \rightarrow S_i \rightarrow Z \rightarrow S_j \rightarrow 0$ .*
- (2) *There exists an epimorphism  $\Psi : P_j \rightarrow Z$ .*

*Proof.* (1) Since  $\rho$  is not an isomorphism, there is  $\rho' : P_i \rightarrow \text{rad } P_j$  such that  $\rho = a\rho'$  where  $a : \text{rad } P_j \rightarrow P_j$  is the inclusion. Since  $\text{Im } \rho \not\subset \text{rad}^2 P_j$ , the composition  $P_i \xrightarrow{\rho'} \text{rad } P_j \xrightarrow{\pi} \text{rad } P_j / \text{rad}^2 P_j$  is non-zero with  $\text{Im}(\pi\rho') \cong S_i$ . Let  $\varphi : \text{rad } P_j \rightarrow S_i$  be the induced non-zero map. Now use the following exact sequence and push-out diagram to define  $Z$  and the morphism  $\Psi : P_j \rightarrow Z$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & \text{rad } P_j & \xrightarrow{a} & P_j & \longrightarrow & S_j & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ & & \downarrow \varphi & & \downarrow \Psi & & \parallel & & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & S_i & \longrightarrow & Z & \longrightarrow & S_j & \longrightarrow & 0. \end{array}$$

It follows from the diagram that  $\Psi$  is epimorphism.  $\square$

From now on we concentrate on the generalized cluster categories of type  $A_n$  and associated cluster-tilted algebras of type  $A_n$ .

**Lemma 2.13.** *Let  $B$  be a cluster-tilted algebra of type  $A_n$ . Let  $M$  be an indecomposable  $B$ -module. Then multiplicity of each simple composition factor of  $M$  is 0 or 1.*

*Proof.* It follows from Remark 2.9 that the multiplicity of the simple  $S_i$  in  $M$  is equal to  $\dim_k \text{Hom}_B(P_i, M)$  and from Proposition 2.7 that it is equal to 1.  $\square$

We recall, that a path  $M_0 \rightarrow M_1 \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow M_s$  in the AR quiver is called *sectional* if  $\tau M_{i+1} \neq M_{i-1}$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, s-1$ . A maximal sectional path is a sectional path which is not a proper subpath of any other sectional path. With this definition consider the following results.

**Lemma 2.14.** *Let  $B$  be a cluster-tilted algebra of type  $A_n$ . Let  $P$  be an indecomposable projective  $B$ -module. Then:*

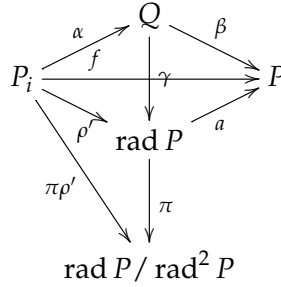
- (1) *All indecomposable projective  $B$ -modules which are in the support of  $\text{Hom}_B(-, P)$  are on the maximal sectional paths to  $P$ .*
- (2) *There are at most two projectively irreducible maps  $\rho : P_j \rightarrow P$ .*

*Proof.* (1) By Corollary 2.8 the support of  $\text{Hom}_B(-, P)$  is the maximal rectangle ending at  $P$ . Also the support of  $\text{Ext}_B^1(P, -)$  is the maximal rectangle ending at  $\tau P$ . Since  $\text{Ext}_B^1(P, P_i) = 0$  it follows that all the indecomposable projective  $B$ -modules which map to  $P$  must be on the maximal sectional paths to  $P$ .

(2) If  $\rho : P_j \rightarrow P$  is projectively irreducible, then  $P_j$  is on a sectional path ending at  $P$  and it is the closest projective (on that path) to  $P$ . Since there are at most two different sectional paths ending at  $P$ , the result follows.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.15.** *Let  $f : P_i \rightarrow P$  be a non-isomorphism with  $P$  indecomposable such that the induced map  $P_i \rightarrow \text{rad } P / \text{rad}^2 P$  is non-zero. Then  $f$  is projectively irreducible.*

*Proof.* Consider a factorization of  $f$  as  $f = \beta\alpha$  through an indecomposable projective  $Q$ . We need to show that either  $\beta$  is an isomorphism or  $\alpha$  is an isomorphism. If  $\beta$  is not isomorphism then it factors through  $\text{rad } P$ , hence there is  $\gamma$  such that  $\beta = a\gamma$ . Then  $f = \beta\alpha = a\gamma\alpha$  and  $f = a\rho'$  imply  $a\gamma\alpha = a\rho'$  (recall that  $a$  is the inclusion  $\text{rad } P \rightarrow P$ ). Since  $a$  is a monomorphism, this implies  $\gamma\alpha = \rho'$ . By assumption  $\pi\rho' \neq 0$  and hence  $\pi\gamma\alpha \neq 0$ . This, together with the fact that  $\text{rad } P / \text{rad}^2 P$  is semisimple, imply that  $\text{Im } \alpha \not\subset \text{rad } Q$ . Therefore  $\alpha$  is an isomorphism. So  $f$  is projectively irreducible.



□

**Proposition 2.16.** *Let  $B$  be a cluster-tilted algebra of type  $A_n$ . Let  $P$  be an indecomposable projective. Then  $\text{rad } P$  is either indecomposable or a direct sum of two indecomposables.*

*Proof.* Let  $\text{rad } P / \text{rad}^2 P = \oplus S_i$ . Then the maps  $\rho_i : P_i \rightarrow P$  are projectively irreducible by Lemma 2.15 and there are at most two such maps by Lemma 2.14 (2). If there is only one such  $\rho_i : P_i \rightarrow P$  then  $\text{rad } P = \text{Im } \rho_i$  and hence indecomposable.

If there are two such maps  $\rho_i : P_i \rightarrow P$  and  $\rho_j : P_j \rightarrow P$  then the map  $P_i \oplus P_j \xrightarrow{\rho'_i, \rho'_j} \text{rad } P$  is an epimorphism and to see that  $\text{rad } P = \text{Im } \rho'_i \cap \text{Im } \rho'_j$  we show that  $\text{Im } \rho'_i \cap \text{Im } \rho'_j = 0$ .

Suppose there is a simple  $S \subset \text{Im } \rho'_i \cap \text{Im } \rho'_j$ . Then there are maps  $P(S) \xrightarrow{\xi_i} P_i$  and  $P(S) \xrightarrow{\xi_j} P_j$  such that  $\rho_i \xi_i \neq 0$  and  $\rho_j \xi_j \neq 0$  (where  $P(S)$  is the projective cover of  $S$ ). Therefore  $P(S)$  is on both sectional paths, which is impossible if they are distinct sectional paths to  $P$ . Therefore  $\text{Im } \rho'_i \cap \text{Im } \rho'_j = 0$  and hence  $\text{rad } P = \text{Im } \rho'_i \oplus \text{Im } \rho'_j$ . □

**Corollary 2.17.** *Let  $\rho_j : P_j \rightarrow P$  be a projectively irreducible map. Then  $\text{Im } \rho_j$  is a direct summand of  $\text{rad } P$ .*

**Remark 2.18.** Let  $P_1 \xrightarrow{\rho_1} P_2 \xrightarrow{\rho_2} \dots \rightarrow P_{j-1} \xrightarrow{\rho_{j-1}} P_j$  be a sectional sequence of projectively irreducible maps. Then  $\rho_t \dots \rho_1 \neq 0$  and  $\text{Im } \rho_t \dots \rho_1 \subset \text{Im } \rho_t$  for all  $t = 1, \dots, j-1$ . In particular  $S_1 \subset \text{Im } \rho_t$  for all  $t = 1, \dots, j-1$ .

**Proposition 2.19.** *Let  $B$  be a cluster-tilted algebra of type  $A_n$ . Let  $P_1 \xrightarrow{\rho_1} P_2 \xrightarrow{\rho_2} \dots \rightarrow P_{t-1} \xrightarrow{\rho_{t-1}} P_t$  be a sectional sequence of projectively irreducible maps. Then:*

- (1) *There exists a uniserial module  $Z^{(t)}$  with composition factors  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_t$ , in this order, with  $\text{soc } Z^{(t)} = S_1$ .*
- (2) *There is an epimorphism  $\Psi_t : P_t \rightarrow Z^{(t)}$ .*

*Proof.* This will be done by induction.

( $t = 1$ )  $Z^{(1)} = S_1$  and there is an epimorphism  $\Psi_1 : P_1 \rightarrow S_1$ .

By construction and by induction hypothesis, there is an exact sequence and the following

maps:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 0 & \longrightarrow & \ker \rho_t & \longrightarrow & P_t & \xrightarrow{\bar{\rho}_t} & \operatorname{Im} \rho_t \longrightarrow 0 \\
 & & & & \downarrow \Psi_t & \swarrow \exists \varphi_t & \\
 & & & & Z^{(t)} & & 
 \end{array}$$

By induction hypothesis  $Z^{(t)}$  is uniserial with  $\operatorname{soc} Z^{(t)} = S_1$ . Consider the induced exact sequence:

$$0 \rightarrow \operatorname{Hom}_B(P_1, \ker \rho_t) \rightarrow \operatorname{Hom}_B(P_1, P_t) \rightarrow \operatorname{Hom}_B(P_1, \operatorname{Im} \rho_t) \rightarrow 0.$$

Since  $S_1 \subset \operatorname{Im} \rho_t$  by Remark 2.18 and  $\operatorname{Im} \rho_t$  is indecomposable, it follows by Proposition 2.7 that  $\dim_K \operatorname{Hom}_B(P_1, \operatorname{Im} \rho_t) = 1$ . Similarly we have  $\dim_K \operatorname{Hom}_B(P_1, P_t) = 1$ . Therefore  $\dim_K \operatorname{Hom}_B(P_1, \ker \rho_t) = 0$ . Hence  $\ker \rho_t$  does not have  $S_1$  as composition factor and therefore  $\operatorname{Hom}_B(\ker \rho_t, Z^{(t)}) = 0$ . Therefore  $\Psi_t$  factors through  $\operatorname{Im} \rho_t$ , i.e. there exists  $\varphi_t$  such that  $\Psi_t = \varphi_t \bar{\rho}_t$ . By induction  $\Psi_t$  is an epimorphism and since  $\Psi_t = \varphi_t \bar{\rho}_t$ , it follows that  $\varphi_t$  is an epimorphism.

Since  $\operatorname{Im} \rho_t$  is a direct summand of  $\operatorname{rad} P_{t+1}$ , the composition  $\varphi_t p$  as in  $\operatorname{rad} P_{t+1} \xrightarrow{p} \operatorname{Im} \rho_t \xrightarrow{\varphi_t} Z^{(t)}$ , is an epimorphism. Consider the following exact sequence and define  $Z^{(t+1)}$  and  $\Psi_{t+1}$  using the push-out diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 0 & \longrightarrow & \operatorname{rad} P_{t+1} & \xrightarrow{a} & P_{t+1} & \longrightarrow & S_{t+1} \longrightarrow 0 \\
 & & \downarrow \varphi_t p & & \downarrow \Psi_{t+1} & & \parallel \\
 0 & \longrightarrow & Z^{(t)} & \longrightarrow & Z^{(t+1)} & \longrightarrow & S_{t+1} \longrightarrow 0. \quad (*_t)
 \end{array}$$

Since  $\varphi_t p$  is an epimorphism it follows that  $\Psi_{t+1}$  is epimorphism. Therefore  $Z^{(t+1)}$  is indecomposable and uniserial with composition factors  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_{t+1}$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 2.20.** *Let  $P$  be indecomposable projective and let*

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccccc}
 P_1 & \xrightarrow{\rho_1} & P_2 & \xrightarrow{\rho_2} & \dots & \xrightarrow{\rho_{i-2}} & P_{i-1} & \xrightarrow{\rho_{i-1}} & P_i & \xrightarrow{\rho_i} & P \\
 Q_1 & \xrightarrow{\xi_1} & Q_2 & \xrightarrow{\xi_2} & \dots & \xrightarrow{\xi_{j-2}} & Q_{j-1} & \xrightarrow{\xi_{j-1}} & Q_j & \xrightarrow{\xi_j} & P
 \end{array}$$

*be two sectional sequences of projectively irreducible maps. Then there is a quotient  $V$  of  $P$  such that  $\operatorname{rad} V \cong U_1 \oplus U_2$  where  $U_1$  and  $U_2$  are uniserial modules with composition factors  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_i$  and  $R_1, R_2, \dots, R_j$  where  $S_t = P_t / \operatorname{rad} P_t$  for  $t = 1, \dots, i$  and  $R_t = Q_t / \operatorname{rad} Q_t$  for  $t = 1, \dots, j$  (resp.).*

*Proof.* Let  $Z^{(i)}$  and  $W^{(j)}$  be the uniserial modules and  $\operatorname{Im} \rho_i \xrightarrow{\varphi_i} Z^{(i)}$  and  $\operatorname{Im} \xi_j \xrightarrow{\eta_j} W^{(j)}$  epimorphisms as constructed in Proposition 2.19. Since  $\operatorname{rad} P \cong \operatorname{Im} \rho_i \oplus \operatorname{Im} \xi_j$  from Corollary 2.17, using the push-out diagram, the module  $V$  is defined:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 0 & \longrightarrow & \operatorname{rad} P & \xrightarrow{a} & P & \longrightarrow & P / \operatorname{rad} P \longrightarrow 0 \\
 & & \downarrow [\varphi_{i-1}, \eta_{j-1}]^t & & \downarrow \Psi & & \parallel \\
 0 & \longrightarrow & Z^{(i)} \oplus W^{(j)} & \longrightarrow & V & \longrightarrow & P / \operatorname{rad} P \longrightarrow 0.
 \end{array}$$

$\square$

**Corollary 2.21.** *Let  $M$  be a module and  $f : P \rightarrow M$  a non-zero morphism. Let*

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccccc}
 P_1 & \xrightarrow{\rho_1} & P_2 & \xrightarrow{\rho_2} & \dots & \xrightarrow{\rho_{i-2}} & P_{i-1} & \xrightarrow{\rho_{i-1}} & P_i & \xrightarrow{\rho_i} & P \\
 Q_1 & \xrightarrow{\xi_1} & Q_2 & \xrightarrow{\xi_2} & \dots & \xrightarrow{\xi_{j-2}} & Q_{j-1} & \xrightarrow{\xi_{j-1}} & Q_j & \xrightarrow{\xi_j} & P
 \end{array}$$

be two maximal sectional sequences of projectively irreducible maps such that  $f\rho_i \dots \rho_1 \neq 0$  and  $f\xi_j \dots \xi_1 \neq 0$ . Then:

- (1)  $\text{Im } f \cong V$  where  $V$  is a quotient of  $P$  and  $\text{rad } V \cong U_1 \oplus U_2$  where  $U_1$  and  $U_2$  are uniserial modules with composition factors  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_i$  with  $S_t = P_t / \text{rad } P_t$  for  $t = 1, \dots, i$  and  $R_1, R_2, \dots, R_j$  where  $R_t = Q_t / \text{rad } Q_t$  for  $t = 1, \dots, j$ .
- (2)  $\text{soc Im } f \cong S_1 \oplus R_1$ .
- (3) If there is only one sectional sequence of projectively irreducible maps, then  $\text{Im } f$  is uniserial and  $\text{soc Im } f \cong S_1$ .

**Lemma 2.22.** Let  $P_1 \xrightarrow{\rho_1} P_2 \xrightarrow{\rho_2} \dots \xrightarrow{\rho_{i-1}} P_i \xrightarrow{\rho_i} P$  and  $Q_1 \xrightarrow{\xi_1} Q_2 \xrightarrow{\xi_2} \dots \xrightarrow{\xi_{j-1}} Q_j \xrightarrow{\xi_j} Q$  be two sectional sequences of projectively irreducible maps. If there is a common projectively irreducible map, then either  $\text{Hom}_B(P, Q) \neq 0$  or  $\text{Hom}_B(Q, P) \neq 0$ .

*Proof.* If there is a common projectively irreducible map (up to constant) then the sequences are on the same sectional path and the result follows.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.23.** Let  $M$  be indecomposable, let  $f : P \rightarrow M$  and  $g : Q \rightarrow M$  be summands of the projective cover of  $M$ . Assume  $P \not\cong Q$ . If  $\text{Im } f \cap \text{Im } g \neq 0$  then  $\text{Im } f \cap \text{Im } g$  is a simple module.

*Proof.* Consider maximal sectional sequences of projectively irreducible maps to  $P$  and  $Q$  composed with  $f$  and  $g$  inside the support of  $\text{Hom}_B(-, M)$ :

$$P_1 \xrightarrow{\rho_1} P_2 \xrightarrow{\rho_2} \dots \xrightarrow{\rho_{i-1}} P_i \xrightarrow{\rho_i} P \xrightarrow{f} M \quad \text{and} \quad P'_1 \xrightarrow{\rho'_1} P'_2 \xrightarrow{\rho'_2} \dots \xrightarrow{\rho'_{i'-1}} P'_{i'} \xrightarrow{\rho'_{i'}} P \xrightarrow{f} M,$$

$$Q_1 \xrightarrow{\xi_1} Q_2 \xrightarrow{\xi_2} \dots \xrightarrow{\xi_{j-1}} Q_j \xrightarrow{\xi_j} Q \xrightarrow{g} M \quad \text{and} \quad Q'_1 \xrightarrow{\xi'_1} Q'_2 \xrightarrow{\xi'_2} \dots \xrightarrow{\xi'_{j'-1}} Q'_{j'} \xrightarrow{\xi'_{j'}} Q \xrightarrow{g} M.$$

Then  $\text{soc Im } f \cong S_1 \oplus S'_1$  and  $\text{soc Im } g \cong R_1 \oplus R'_1$ . If  $\text{Im } f \cap \text{Im } g \neq 0$  then there are two cases: Case (1):  $\text{soc Im } f = \text{soc Im } g$  in which case  $S_1 \cong R_1$  and  $S'_1 \cong R'_1$ . Since  $P \not\cong Q$  this would require four distinct sectional paths within the rectangle of support of  $\text{Hom}_B(-, M)$  which is impossible.

Case (2):  $S_1 \cong R_1$  and  $S'_1 \not\cong R'_1$ . Since  $P \not\cong Q$  and they are both part of projective cover of  $M$  it follows that  $\text{Hom}_B(P, Q) = 0$  or  $\text{Hom}_B(Q, P) = 0$  and therefore the two sectional paths from  $S_1 \cong R_1$  must be different. Hence  $\text{Im } f \cap \text{Im } g \cong S_1 \cong R_1$  which is simple.  $\square$

**Construction 2.24. Procedure for describing modules.** Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a generalized cluster category of type  $A_n$  and let  $B$  be the corresponding cluster tilted algebra. Let  $M$  be an indecomposable  $B$ -module. Then the structure of  $M$  can be described in the following way using the AR-quiver:

- (1) Consider the rectangle in the AR-quiver ending at the point corresponding to  $M$ , i.e. this is the support of  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(-, M) \supset \text{Hom}_B(-, M)$ .
- (2) Consider all indecomposable projective  $B$ -modules which appear in this rectangle <sup>1</sup>.
- (3) Chose one of the two directions of the sectional paths.
- (4) With the chosen direction, find the first maximal sectional path within the support of  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(-, M) \supset \text{Hom}_B(-, M)$  which contains any projective  $B$ -modules (the order on the sectional paths is given by  $t$  if the path passes through  $\tau^t M$ ).
- (5) Let  $P_{1,1} \xrightarrow{\rho_{1,1}} P_{1,2} \xrightarrow{\rho_{1,2}} \dots \rightarrow P_{1,k_1-1} \xrightarrow{\rho_{1,k_1-1}} P_{1,k_1} \xrightarrow{\rho_{1,k_1}} P_{2,1}$  be a maximal sequence of projectively irreducible maps on this sectional path.
- (6) Consider the second sectional path to  $P_{2,1}$  (if it exists).

Let  $P_{3,1} \xrightarrow{\rho'_{2,k_2}} P_{2,k_2} \xrightarrow{\rho'_{2,k_2-1}} \dots \rightarrow P_{2,3} \xrightarrow{\rho'_{2,2}} P_{2,2} \xrightarrow{\rho'_{2,1}} P_{2,1}$  be a maximal sequence of projectively irreducible maps on this sectional path.

<sup>1</sup>Note that all projectives in  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(-, M)$  are also in  $\text{Hom}_B(-, M)$ .



(7) Consider the second sectional path out of  $P_{3,1}$  (if it exists).

Let  $P_{3,1} \xrightarrow{\rho_{3,1}} P_{3,2} \xrightarrow{\rho_{3,2}} \dots \rightarrow P_{3,k_3-1} \xrightarrow{\rho_{3,k_3-1}} P_{3,k_3} \xrightarrow{\rho_{3,k_3}} P_{4,1}$  be a maximal sequence of projectively irreducible maps on this sectional path.

(8) Continue this way until there are no more projective  $B$ -modules in the support of  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(-, M) \supset \text{Hom}_B(-, M)$ . This procedure must stop since there are only finitely many projectives and each projective can appear only once by Proposition 2.7.

(9) At the end, one obtains the following maximal sequences of projectively irreducible maps for even  $s \in \{2, 4, \dots, r\}$ , in two directions along the AR-quiver:

$$P_{s-1,1} \xrightarrow{\rho_{s-1,1}} P_{s-1,2} \xrightarrow{\rho_{s-1,2}} \dots \rightarrow P_{s-1,k_{s-1}} \xrightarrow{\rho_{s-1,k_{s-1}}} P_{s,1} \quad (*)_s \text{ and}$$

$$P_{s+1,1} \xrightarrow{\rho'_{s,k_s}} P_{s,k_s} \xrightarrow{\rho'_{s,k_s-1}} \dots \rightarrow P_{s,3} \xrightarrow{\rho'_{s,2}} P_{s,2} \xrightarrow{\rho'_{s,1}} P_{s,1} \quad (**)_s.$$

(10) It is possible for  $k_1 = 0$  and/or  $k_r = 0$ .

**Theorem 2.25.** *Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be generalized cluster category of type  $A_n$  and let  $B$  be the corresponding cluster tilted algebra. Let  $M$  be an indecomposable  $B$ -module. Then:*

(1)  *$M$  is a string module with the composition factors appearing exactly as the projective modules appear in the projectively irreducible sequences in the Construction 2.24.(9).*

(2)  *$M/\text{rad } M \cong S_{2,1} \oplus S_{4,1} \oplus \dots \oplus S_{r,1}$ .*

(3)  *$\text{soc } M \cong S_{1,1} \oplus S_{3,1} \oplus \dots \oplus S_{r+1,1}$ , where  $S_{1,1}$  and  $S_{r+1,1}$  may or may not be there.*

*Proof.* Follows from the construction which defines projective presentation of  $M$  as:

$$P_{0,1} \oplus P_{3,1} \oplus \dots \oplus P_{r+1,1} \xrightarrow{g} P_{2,1} \oplus P_{4,1} \oplus \dots \oplus P_{r,1} \quad \text{where:}$$

$P_{0,1} \xrightarrow{g_1} P_{2,1}$  with  $g_1 = (\rho_{1,k_1} \dots \rho_{1,1})\rho_{1,0}$  is the composition of projectively irreducible maps as in  $(*)_2$  with additional map  $\rho_{1,0}$  on the same sectional path,

$P_{r+1,1} \xrightarrow{g'_r} P_{r,1}$  with  $g'_r = (\rho'_{r,1} \dots \rho'_{r,k_r})\rho'_{r,k_r+1}$  is the composition of projectively irreducible maps as in  $(**)_r$  with additional map  $\rho'_{r,k_r+1}$  on the same sectional path,

$P_{t,1} \xrightarrow{(g'_{t-1}, g_t)} P_{t-1,1} \oplus P_{t+1,1}$  with  $g'_{t-1} = (\rho'_{t-1,1} \dots \rho'_{t-1,k_{t-1}})$  is the composition of projectively irreducible maps as in  $(**)_{t-1}$ , and  $g_t = (\rho_{t,k_t} \dots \rho_{t,1})$  is the composition of projectively irreducible maps as in  $(*)_{t+1}$ , for  $t \in \{3, 5, \dots, r-1\}$ .

All other maps are zero. □

*Example 2.26.* Let  $B = \text{End}_{\mathcal{C}_{A_{10}}}(T)$  be the cluster-tilted algebra from Example 3.1. Let us illustrate the method of Construction 2.24 for describing the decomposition factors of some modules  $M$  over this algebra: take for example  $M = \begin{smallmatrix} 3 \\ 8 \end{smallmatrix}_1$ . (See Figure 7 for the position of the modules in the AR quiver.) From Cor. 2.8 it follows that the projectives  $P_1, P_3$  and  $P_8$  are in the support of  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(-, M)$ , which is given as the maximal rectangle ending in  $M$ . If we choose the sectional path ending at  $M$  and coming south-east from  $P_8$ , we find that  $P_8 \rightarrow P_3$  is a maximal sequence of projectively irreducible maps on this path. In step (6) of the above construction we get  $P_1 \rightarrow P_3$ . Since there are no more indecomposable projectives in  $\text{supp}(\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(-, M))$ , one sees that  $M$  is of the form  $\begin{smallmatrix} 3 \\ 8 \end{smallmatrix}_1$ . If we had chosen the other maximal sectional path from  $P_4[1]$  to  $M$ , then there is no projective on this path. In step (5) we consider the parallel maximal sectional paths through the  $\tau^t M$ . Then the first projective is  $P_1$  on the north-east path through  $\tau^3 M = \begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \end{smallmatrix}_{\frac{2}{10}}$ . In step (6) nothing is added but in (7) we see that  $P_3$  is on the north-east path out of  $P_1$ . Finally,  $P_8$  lies on the other sectional path to  $P_3$  and we have recovered the same  $M$ .

For another example, consider  $M = P_7 = \begin{smallmatrix} 7 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 8 \end{smallmatrix}$ . The support of  $\text{Hom } \mathcal{C}(-, M)$  consists of the modules on the line from  $P_7$  to  $P_8 = 8$ . Since the projectives on this path are  $P_8 \rightarrow P_3 \rightarrow P_2 \rightarrow P_7$ , one immediately sees that  $P_7$  is uniserial.

## 3. FROM CLUSTER CATEGORIES TO FRIEZES

## 3.1. The specialized Caldero Chapoton map.

Let  $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{C}_{(Q,W)}$  be a generalized cluster category and let  $T = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n T_i$  be a cluster-tilting object of  $\mathcal{C}$  with pairwise non-isomorphic indecomposable summands  $T_i$ . As before, let  $B_T = \text{End}_{\mathcal{C}}(T)$  denote the cluster-tilted algebra associated to  $T$ . As we have seen in Section 2 every indecomposable object in  $\mathcal{C}$  is either  $T_i[1]$  for some  $1 \leq i \leq n$  or it can be viewed as an indecomposable  $B_T$ -module.

The *specialized Caldero Chapoton map* is the map we get from postcomposing the Caldero Chapoton map associated to  $T$  with the specialization of the initial cluster variables to one. The Caldero Chapoton map was introduced by Caldero and Chapoton [CC06] for the acyclic case and in a much more general setting for 2-Calabi-Yau triangulated categories with cluster-tilting objects by Palu [Pal08]. It was extended to Frobenius categories by Fu and Keller in [FK10]. See also Section 3.5 below. The specialized Caldero Chapoton map is defined on indecomposable objects of  $\mathcal{C}$  by

$$\rho_T(M) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } M = T_i[1] \\ \sum_{\underline{e}} \chi(\text{Gr}_{\underline{e}}(M)) & \text{if } M \text{ is a } B_T\text{-module.} \end{cases}$$

Here,  $\text{Gr}_{\underline{e}}(M)$  is the Grassmannian of submodules of the  $B_T$ -module  $M$  with dimension vector  $\underline{e}$  and  $\chi$  is the Euler-Poincaré characteristic. If  $\mathcal{C}$  is of type  $A_n$  and  $T$  is a cluster-tilting object of  $\mathcal{C}$ , then for every indecomposable  $B_T$ -module  $M$  the Grassmannian  $\text{Gr}_{\underline{e}}(M)$  is either empty or a point, therefore the above formula simplifies to

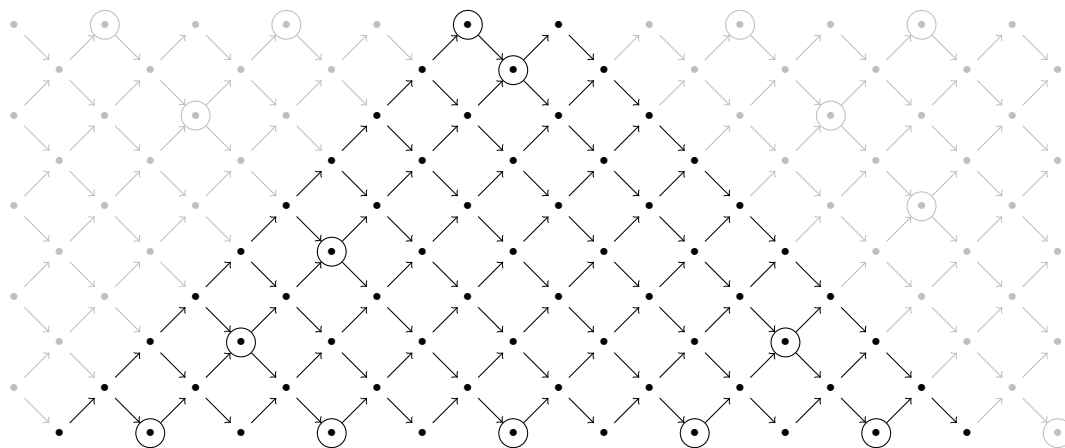
$$\rho_T(M) = \sum_{N \subseteq M} 1 = s(M),$$


where the sum goes over submodules of  $M$  and we denote by  $s(M)$  the number of submodules of  $M$  up to isomorphism (cf. [CC06, Example 3.2]).

## 3.2. Friezes via the specialized Caldero Chapoton map.

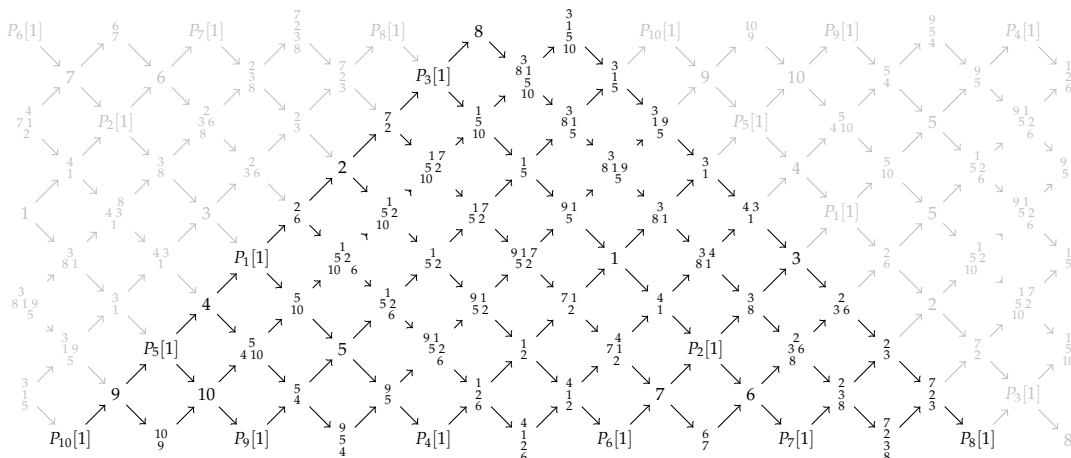
Let  $T = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n T_i$  be a cluster-tilting object in the cluster category  $\mathcal{C}_{A_n}$  of type  $A_n$  with pairwise non-isomorphic indecomposable objects  $T_i$ . The *frieze associated to  $T$*  is the frieze we obtain in the following way: We take the Auslander-Reiten quiver of  $\mathcal{C}_{A_n}$  and put in the position of the indecomposable object  $M$  the positive integer  $\rho_T(M)$ . Then we add rows of 0s and 1s at the top and bottom such that the first and last row are rows of 0s and the second and second-to-last row are rows of 1s. This is indeed a frieze by [CC06, Proposition 5.2]. Note that while [CC06, Proposition 5.2] only shows the statement for cluster-tilting subcategories whose quivers are an orientation of  $A_n$ , the proof can be adapted to include the other quivers in the mutation class of an orientation of  $A_n$ . Alternatively, the statement follows from the much more general result [HJ16, Theorem 5.4]. We will see in the next section how to extend the frieze patterns to include the rows of 1s at top and bottom. We do so by using an exact category and the variant of Palu's cluster character defined in [FK10], this allows us to extend  $\rho_T$  to the Frobenius category.

*Example 3.1.* Consider the cluster category  $\mathcal{C}_{A_{10}}$ . Its Auslander-Reiten quiver is the quotient of the Auslander-Reiten quiver of  $D^b(kA_{10})$  by the action of  $\tau^{-1}[1]$ , a fundamental domain for which is depicted in black below. We pick the cluster tilting object  $T = \bigoplus_{i=1}^{10} T_i$  whose indecomposable summands are marked with circles:



Q: 

In light of Theorem 2.4 we can view  $\text{mod}(B_T)$  as a subcategory of  $\mathcal{C}_{A_{10}}$  and label the indecomposable objects in  $\mathcal{C}_{A_{10}}$  by modules and shifts of projective modules respectively:



Replacing each vertex labelled by a module by the number of its submodules, the shifts of projectives by 1s and adding in the first two and last two rows of 0s and 1s gives rise to the associated frieze:

0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	3	1	5	1	2	5	1	3	1	4	1	
	2	2	4	4	1	9	4	2	2	3	3	4
7	1	7	3	3	4	7	7	1	5	2	11	
	3	3	5	2	11	3	12	3	2	3	7	8
2	8	2	3	7	8	5	5	5	1	10	5	
	5	5	1	10	5	13	2	8	2	3	7	8
12	3	2	3	7	8	5	3	3	5	2	11	
	7	1	5	2	11	3	7	1	7	3	3	4
4	2	2	3	3	4	4	2	2	4	4	1	
	1	3	1	4	1	5	1	3	1	5	1	2
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Knowing the position of the 1s in the frieze, i.e. the position of the (shifts of the) indecomposable projectives in the Auslander-Reiten quiver, is enough to determine the whole frieze using the frieze rule. However, we can determine each entry independently: It is the number of submodules of the indecomposable  $B_T$ -module sitting in the same position in the Auslander-Reiten quiver. In Section 2 we have seen how to determine the composition series of each module according to its position in the Auslander-Reiten quiver, and in Section 4 we will derive the number of isomorphism classes of submodules of any given indecomposable  $B_T$ -module from its composition series. This will allow us to directly determine the entry of the frieze solely based on its relative position to the 1s in the frieze.

### 3.3. Triangulations and frieze patterns.

Given a regular  $n + 3$ -gon we label its vertices clockwise  $1, \dots, n + 3$ , and we consider them modulo  $n + 3$ . A diagonal with endpoints  $i$  and  $j$  is denoted by  $[ij]$ . By [CC73a, CC73b] and [BCI74], matching numbers for diagonals in a triangulated polygon together with the boundary segments correspond to the non-zero entries in a frieze: The boundary segments correspond to the entries in the first and the last row of the frieze filled only with 1's. An entry  $m_{i-1, i+1}$ , cf. Section 1, in the first non-trivial row corresponds to a diagonal of the form  $[i - 1, i + 1]$ , it is the number of triangles incident with vertex  $i$ . In the next row are the  $m_{i-1, i+2}$ , they are the matching numbers for the diagonals  $[i - 1, i + 2]$ , i.e. the number of matchings between triangles of the triangulation and vertices  $\{i, i + 1\}$ . In particular, apart from the two rows of 1s, the diagonals  $[ij]$  of the triangulation are exactly the entries that equal 1 in the frieze pattern.

### 3.4. Triangulations and cluster categories.

On the other hand, diagonals in an  $n + 3$ -gon are in bijection with indecomposable objects in the corresponding cluster category  $\mathcal{C}$  ([CCS06]): we can define a stable translation quiver on the diagonals  $[i, j]$  of the  $n + 3$ -gon with arrows  $[i, j] \rightarrow [i, j - 1]$  and  $[i, j] \rightarrow [i - 1, j]$  (provided the endpoint is a diagonal) and translation  $\tau([i, j]) = [i + 1, j + 1]$ . This quiver is isomorphic to the AR quiver of  $\mathcal{C}$ . In terms of the AR quiver in Section 2.3, the row of objects  $a_{j,1}$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq n + 1$  together with  $a_{1,n}$ ,  $a_{2,n}$  corresponds to the diagonals  $[i - 1, i + 1]$  ( $i = 1, \dots, n + 3$ ), reducing endpoints modulo  $n + 3$ . Take  $\mathcal{T}$  a triangulation of an  $n + 3$ -gon with diagonals  $d_i = [i_1, i_2]$  (for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ ). To  $\mathcal{T}$ , we associate the cluster-tilting object  $T = \bigoplus T_i$  where  $T_i$  corresponds to the diagonal  $[i_1 - 1, i_2 - 1]$ . Recall that the specialized Caldero Chapoton map  $\rho_T$  from Section 3.2 associates an entry 1 with every indecomposable

$T_i[1]$ . In terms of the diagonals of the triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$ , this amounts to an entry 1 for every  $[ij] \in \mathcal{T}$  as in Section 3.3.

### 3.5. Triangulations and a Frobenius category.

We extend  $\text{ind } \mathcal{C}$  by adding an indecomposable for each boundary segment of the polygon and denote the resulting category by  $\mathcal{C}_f$ . Then  $\mathcal{C}_f$  is the Frobenius category of maximal CM-modules categorifying the cluster algebra structure of the coordinate ring of the (affine cone of the) Grassmannian  $\text{Gr}(2, n)$  as studied in [DL16] and for general Grassmannians in [JKS16, BKM16]. The stable category of  $\mathcal{C}_f$  is equivalent to  $\mathcal{C}$ . We then extend the definition of  $\rho_T$  to  $\mathcal{C}_f$  by setting

$$\rho_T(M) = 1 \quad \text{if } M \text{ corresponds to a boundary segment.}$$

This agrees with the extension of the cluster character to Frobenius category given by Fu and Keller, cf. Theorem [FK10, Theorem 3.3].

## 4. NUMBER OF SUBMODULES

As in the previous section, let  $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{C}_{(Q, W)}$  be a generalized cluster category and  $T = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n T_i$  be a cluster-tilting object of  $\mathcal{C}$  with pairwise non-isomorphic indecomposable summands  $T_i$ , and  $B_T = \text{End}_{\mathcal{C}}(T)$  the cluster-tilted algebra associated to  $T$ . Then  $B_T = kQ/I$  and  $Q$  is mutation equivalent to type  $A_n$  [CCS06, Sch14]. All indecomposable modules of  $kQ/I$  are string modules. Let  $M$  be an indecomposable module over  $B_T$ , or equivalently, an indecomposable representation of the quiver  $Q$ .

Let  $s(M)$  denote the number of submodules of  $M$ . For representations of quivers, we use notation following [Sch14]. Let  $S$  be a simple in the support of  $M$ . Then  $S$  is a *valley* if  $S$  belongs to  $\text{soc}(M)$  and  $S$  is a *peak* if  $S$  belongs to  $\text{top}(M) = M/\text{rad}(M)$ . We number the simples appearing as peaks and valleys as  $S(i)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, m$ . Define further modules  $N_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, m$  as follows:

$$N_i = \begin{cases} \bullet \text{ max. uniserial submodules of } M \text{ containing } S(i) \text{ and extending } S(i+1) \\ \quad \text{if } S(i) \text{ is a valley,} \\ \bullet \text{ max. uniserial submodules of } M \text{ containing } S(i+1) \text{ and extending } S(i) \\ \quad \text{if } S(i) \text{ is a peak.} \end{cases}$$

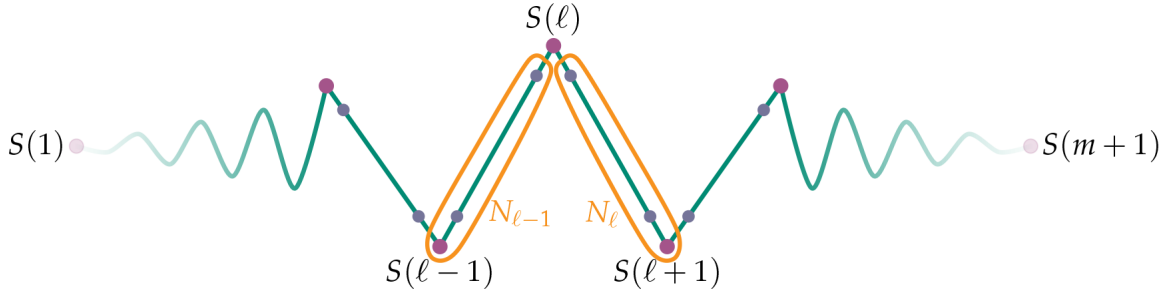
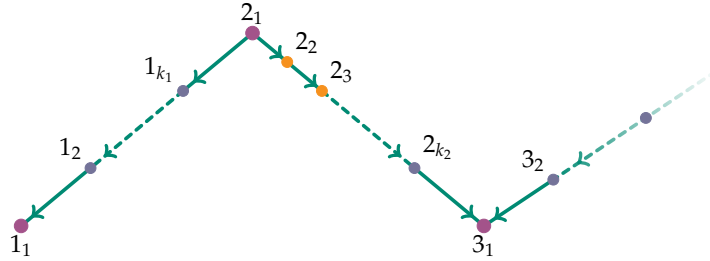
We call the  $N_i$  the *legs* of  $M$  (see Fig. 1). Then we set  $k_i := l(N_i)$  for  $i = 1, \dots, m$ , where  $l(N_i)$  denotes the composition length of the uniserial module  $N_i$ . Note that  $s(M)$  is determined by the sequence  $k_1, \dots, k_m$ . We say that  $M$  is of *shape*  $(k_1, k_2, \dots, k_m)$  and by abuse of notation write  $s(k_1, \dots, k_m)$  for the number of submodules of a module  $M$  of shape  $(k_1, \dots, k_m)$ .

Note here that  $s(M)$  only depends on the shape of  $M$ : for any string module  $M$ , the number of submodules is equal to the number of quotients, since submodules  $M'$  are in bijection to quotients  $M''$  by the short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow M' \rightarrow M \rightarrow M'' \rightarrow 0$ . Suppose that  $M$  is of shape  $(k_1, \dots, k_m)$  and starts with a peak. Denote by  $M^\vee$  a module of the same shape but starting with a valley. Then  $s(M)$  equals the number of quotients of  $M$ . The quotients of  $M$  are clearly in bijection to the submodules of  $M^\vee$ , thus  $s(M) = s(M^\vee)$ .

Note that the number of arguments of  $s(M)$  depends on the number of legs of  $M$ . Sometimes we need more information about  $M$ , namely the orientations and particular simples in the support of the legs, then we write

$$M = (1_1 \leftarrow 1_2 \leftarrow \dots \leftarrow 1_{k_1} \leftarrow 2_1 \rightarrow 2_2 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow 2_{k_2} \rightarrow 3_1 \leftarrow 3_2 \leftarrow \dots),$$

if  $M$  starts with a peak, i.e.  $S(2)$  is a peak. The  $i_j$  are contained in  $Q_0$ . Note that here  $S(1) = S_{1_1}$ ,  $S(2) = S_{2_1}$ , etc. Written differently, see Fig. 2:

FIGURE 1. A string module  $M$  of shape  $(k_1, \dots, k_m)$  with legs  $N_l$ .FIGURE 2. Starting at  $S(1) = S_{1_1}$ . Here  $i_j$  denotes the  $j$ -th simple in the  $i$ -th leg of  $M$ .

For the number of submodules of  $M$  of shape  $(k_1, \dots, k_m)$  we will first derive a recursive formula in terms of certain subrepresentations of  $M$  in Lemma 4.3 and then an explicit formula, only depending on the numbers  $k_i$  in Thm. 4.6. The proof of the following lemma is straightforward:

**Lemma 4.1.** *If  $M$  is uniserial, that is, it is of the shape  $(k_1)$  for some  $k_1 \in \mathbb{N}$  then  $s(M) = k_1 + 2 = l(M) + 1$ . In particular, if  $M$  is simple, then  $s(M) = 2$ .*

For modules  $M$  with  $m \geq 2$  one can express the number of submodules of  $M$  in terms of submodules  $M_{S(2)}$  and  $\overline{M}_{S(2)}$  in  $M$ . Therefore define the following: if  $S(1)$  is a valley, let  $M_{S(2)}$  be the maximal (proper) indecomposable submodule of  $M$  containing  $S(m+1)$  and  $\overline{M}_{S(2)}$  the maximal (proper) indecomposable submodule of  $M_{S(2)}$  containing  $S(m+1)$ . If  $S(1)$  is a peak, define  $M_{S(2)}, \tilde{M}_{S(2)}$  dually as quotients: let  $M_{S(2)}$  be the maximal (proper) quotient of  $M$  containing  $S(m+1)$  and  $\tilde{M}_{S(2)}$  the maximal (proper) quotient of  $M_{S(2)}$  containing  $S(m+1)$ .

*Example 4.2.* Let  $M = (1 \leftarrow 2 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 5 \leftarrow 6)$ . Here  $M$  is of shape  $(1, 3, 1)$ , that is,  $k_1 = 1, k_2 = 3, k_3 = 1$ . The submodules of  $M$  (without indicated arrows) are:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0, & (3456), & (345), & (456), & (45) & (56), & (5), \\ (1), & (1) \oplus (3456), & (1) \oplus (345), & (1) \oplus (456), & (1) \oplus (45), & (1) \oplus (56), & (1) \oplus (5), \\ & (12345), & (123456). & & & & \end{array}$$

These are 16 submodules. We have

$$M_{S(2)} = (3 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 5 \leftarrow 6) \text{ and } \overline{M}_{S(2)} = (4 \rightarrow 5 \leftarrow 6).$$

Then the submodules of  $M$  can be partitioned into submodules of  $M_{S(2)}$ ,  $(1) \oplus$  submodules of  $M_{S(2)}$  and submodules of  $M_{S(2)}$  that contain the simple 3 glued to the first leg  $1 \leftarrow 2$  (these are the two modules  $(1 \leftarrow 2 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 5)$  and  $(1 \leftarrow 2 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 5 \leftarrow 6)$ ). The



cardinality of the first set is  $2s(M_{S(2)})$ . The others can be seen as submodules of  $M_{S(2)}$  minus the ones not containing 3, so there are  $s(M_{S(2)}) - s(\overline{M}_{S(2)})$  many of them. The total number of submodules of  $M$  is  $s(M) = 3s(M_{S(2)}) - s(\overline{M}_{S(2)}) = 3 \cdot 7 - 5 = 16$ .

**Lemma 4.3.** *The number of submodules of  $M$  of shape  $(k_1, \dots, k_m)$  is given by*

$$s(M) = (k_1 + 1)s(M_{S(2)}) + s(M_{S(2)}) - s(\overline{M}_{S(2)}) = (k_1 + 2)s(M_{S(2)}) - s(\overline{M}_{S(2)}),$$

where  $M_{S(2)}$  and  $\overline{M}_{S(2)}$  are as defined above. In particular, if  $k_2 > 1$ , then  $M_{S(2)}$  is of shape  $(k_2 - 1, k_3, \dots, k_m)$ , and  $\overline{M}_{S(2)}$  is of shape  $(k_2 - 2, k_3, \dots, k_m)$ . If  $k_2 = 1$ , then  $M_{S(2)} = (S(3) - \dots - S(m))$  is of shape  $(k_3, \dots, k_m)$  and  $\overline{M}_{S(2)}$  is of shape  $(k_4 - 1, \dots, k_m)$ .

*Proof.* Without loss of generality we may assume that  ${}_{N_1}^{S(2)} N_2$  is a peak.

Now the number of submodules of  $M$  can be split into two parts: the first ones are direct sums of submodules of  $M_{S(2)}$  and submodules of  $N_1$ , that is

$$0 \oplus \{\text{submodules of } M_{S(2)}\}, S(1) \oplus \{\text{submodules of } M_{S(2)}\}, \\ (1_1 \leftarrow 1_2) \oplus \{\text{submodules of } M_{S(2)}\}, \dots, N_1 \oplus \{\text{submodules of } M_{S(2)}\},$$

which makes a total of  $(l(N_1) + 1) \cdot s(M_{S(2)}) = (k_1 + 1)s(M_{S(2)})$  submodules. Note here that we counted the zero-module in this part, as  $0 \oplus 0$ . The remaining submodules are of the form  ${}_{N_1}^{S(2)} N_2$ . These are the submodules of  $M$  that contain the first simple of  $N_2$  below of  $S(2)$ . One can easily see that if  $N \subseteq M$  contains some simple  $2_i$  in  $N_2$ , it has to contain the whole leg  $N_2$ . Moreover if  $N$  is a submodule of  $M$  containing  $S(2)$ , then  $N$  also has to contain  ${}_{N_1}^{S(2)}$  [see this with writing down the quiver representations]. Submodules of  $M$  are then  ${}_{N_1}^{S(2)}$  “glued to” submodules of  $M_{S(2)}$  which also contain the simple just below  $S(2)$ . The number of those submodules is given by  $s(M_{S(2)}) - s(\overline{M}_{S(2)})$ . Thus in total we get

$$s(M) = (k_1 + 1)s(M_{S(2)}) + (s(M_{S(2)}) - s(\overline{M}_{S(2)})) = (k_1 + 2)s(M_{S(2)}) - s(\overline{M}_{S(2)}).$$

□

Before giving an explicit formula we introduce some notation.

**Definition 4.4.** Let  $\underline{m} = \{1, \dots, m\}$ . Let  $I$  be a subset in  $\underline{m}$ . We may assume that the elements in  $I$  are ordered, i.e.,  $i_1 < i_2 < \dots$ . The *interior* of  $I = \{i_1, \dots, i_l\}$  are the integers  $i_2, \dots, i_{l-1}$ . Then  $I \subseteq \underline{m}$  is called  *$\underline{m}$ -admissible* if “gaps” in  $I$  come in pairs  $i, (i+1)$  in the interior of  $I$ . This means in particular that two consecutive numbers  $i_j, i_{j+1}$  in  $I$ , are either even-odd or odd-even. Note that  $\emptyset$  and all  $\{i\} \subseteq \underline{m}$  are admissible.

*Example 4.5.* For  $m = 5$  the admissible sets are 12345, 1234, 2345, 123, 125, 145, 345, 234, 12, 14, 34, 23, 25, 45, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5,  $\emptyset$ .

**Theorem 4.6.** *Let  $M$  be of shape  $(k_1, \dots, k_m)$ . Then*

$$s(M) = \prod_{i=1}^m k_i + \sum_{\substack{I \subseteq \underline{m}, |I|=m-1, \\ I \text{ admissible}}} \left( \prod_{i \in I} k_i \right) + \sum_{\substack{I \subseteq \underline{m}, |I|=m-2, \\ I \text{ admissible}}} \left( \prod_{i \in I} k_i \right) + \dots + \sum_{i=1}^m k_i + 2.$$

*In a more compact form:*

$$(1) \quad s(M) = \sum_{j=0}^m \sum_{\substack{I \subseteq \underline{m}, |I|=m-j, \\ I \text{ admissible}}} \left( \prod_{i \in I} k_i \right) + 1.$$

*Proof.* The proof is by induction on  $m$ . If  $m = 1$ , then  $M$  is uniserial and  $s(M) = k_1 + 2$  by Lemma 4.1. The formula (1) reads for  $\underline{1} = \{1\}$ , and all  $I \subseteq \underline{1}$  are admissible:

$$k_1 + \prod_{i \in \emptyset} k_i + 1 = k_1 + 2.$$

For  $m = 2$ , that is,  $M$  is a peak, one can use the recursion formula from lemma 4.3: here  $M_{S(2)} = N_2 = (2_2 \rightarrow 2_3 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow 2_{k_2-1} \rightarrow S(3))$  and  $\overline{M}_{S(2)} = (2_3 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow 2_{k_2-1} \rightarrow S(3))$ . Both  $M_{S(2)}$  and  $\overline{M}_{S(2)}$  are uniserial. Then

$$\begin{aligned} s(M) &= (k_1 + 2)s(M_{S(2)}) - s(\overline{M}_{S(2)}) = (k_1 + 2)(k_2 + 1) - k_2 \\ &= k_1 k_2 + k_1 + k_2 + 2, \end{aligned}$$

since  $s(M_{S(2)}) = l(M_{S(2)}) + 1 = k_2 + 1$  and  $s(\overline{M}_{S(2)}) = l(\overline{M}_{S(2)}) + 1 = (k_2 - 1) + 1$ . Note that if  $k_2 = 1$ , then  $\overline{M}_{S(2)}$  is the zero-module and we have  $s(\overline{M}_{S(2)}) = 1$  in this case.

For  $m = 2$ , that is,  $M$  of shape  $(k_1, k_2)$ , the right hand side of (1) gives

$$k_1 k_2 + k_1 + k_2 + 2,$$

since all  $I \subseteq \underline{2}$  are admissible. So the formula holds for  $m = 2$ . Suppose now that the formula holds for  $m - 1$  legs and let  $M$  be of shape  $(k_1, \dots, k_m)$ , i.e., have  $m$  legs. By lemma 4.3

$$(2) \quad s(M) = (k_1 + 2)s(M_{S(2)}) - s(\overline{M}_{S(2)}).$$

We have to consider 2 cases: (i)  $k_2 > 1$  and (ii)  $k_2 = 1$ , since the shape of  $M_{S(2)}$  and  $\overline{M}_{S(2)}$  are different in the second case.

For case (i) we group the right hand side of (2) as

$$(3) \quad \underbrace{(k_1 + 1)s(k_2 - 1, k_3, \dots, k_m)}_{(*)} + \underbrace{(s(k_2 - 1, k_3, \dots, k_m) - s(k_2 - 2, k_3, \dots, k_m))}_{(**)}.$$

We may assume that the  $k_i$  appearing in the products are ordered with respect to  $i$ , i.e.,  $k_{i_1} k_{i_2} \dots k_{i_s}$  with  $i_1 < \dots < i_s$ . From the definition of  $\underline{m}$ -admissible sets it follows that in each  $I$ ,  $i_l$  has to be followed by an odd  $i_{l+1}$  and the same for odd  $i_l$  has to be followed by an even  $i_{l+1}$ . For brevity, throughout the rest of this proof, we will simply write admissible, whenever we mean  $\underline{m}$ -admissible. We call an admissible set  $I \subseteq \underline{m}$  2-admissible (short: 2-a.), if it does not contain 1 and starts with an odd  $i > 1$  (that is, some  $k_i$ , where  $i$  is odd) or is empty. Thus admissible sets of  $\underline{m}$  (or of  $(k_1, \dots, k_m)$ ) for  $(k_2, \dots, k_m)$  are partitioned into 2-admissible sets and non-2-admissible sets not containing 1. Then for any integer  $0 \leq l \leq k_2$  we have using (1)

$$s(k_2 - l, k_3, \dots, k_m) = \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \left( (k_2 - l + 1) \sum_{\substack{I \subseteq \underline{m} \text{ 2-a.}, \\ |I|=m-j-1}} \prod_{i \in I} k_i + \sum_{\substack{I \subseteq \underline{m} \text{ adm. but not 2-a.}, \\ \{1,2\} \not\subseteq I, |I|=m-j-1}} \prod_{i \in I} k_i \right) + 1.$$

Thus (\*) in (3) is

$$(4) \quad (k_1 + 1)s(k_2 - 1, k_3, \dots, k_m) = (k_1 + 1) \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \left( k_2 \sum_{\substack{I \subseteq \underline{m} \text{ 2-a.}, \\ |I|=m-j-1}} \prod_{i \in I} k_i + \sum_{\substack{I \subseteq \underline{m} \text{ adm. but not 2-a.}, \\ \{1,2\} \not\subseteq I, |I|=m-j-1}} \prod_{i \in I} k_i \right) + 1.$$

and (\*\*) of (3) becomes

$$(5) \quad s(k_2 - 1, k_3, \dots, k_m) - s(k_2 - 2, k_3, \dots, k_m) = \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \sum_{\substack{I \subseteq \underline{m} \text{ 2-a.}, \\ |I|=m-j-1}} \prod_{i \in I} k_i.$$

Adding (4) and (5) yields

$$(6) \quad \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \left( (k_1 k_2 + k_2 + 1) \left( \sum_{\substack{I \subseteq \underline{m} \text{ 2-a.}, \\ |I|=m-j-1}} \prod_{i \in I} k_i \right) + (k_1 + 1) \left( \sum_{\substack{I \subseteq \underline{m} \text{ adm. but not 2-a.}, \\ \{1,2\} \not\subseteq I, |I|=m-j-1}} \prod_{i \in I} k_i \right) \right) + k_1 + 1,$$

which is precisely the expression on the right hand side of (1).

Case (ii), that is,  $k_2 = 1$ , is similar: First note that if  $m = 3$ , then  $\overline{M}_{S(2)}$  is the zero-module with  $s(\overline{M}_{S(2)}) = 1$ . The right hand side of (2) is then

$$(k_1 + 2)s(k_3) - s(\overline{M}_{S(2)}) = (k_1 + 2)(k_3 + 2) - 1 = k_1 k_3 + 2k_3 + 2k_1 + 3,$$

which can be grouped (using  $k_2 = 1$ ) to

$$k_1 k_2 k_3 + (k_2 k_3 + k_3) + (k_1 k_2 + k_1) + k_2 + 2.$$

This is the expression of (1) for  $m = 3$ .

Now for  $m \geq 4$ , the argument is similar to case (i): set  $A := (\sum_{j=0}^{m-2} \sum_{\substack{I \subseteq \underline{m} \text{ 2-a.}, \\ |I|=m-j-2}} \prod_{i \in I} k_i + 1)$

and  $B := \sum_{i=0}^{m-2} \sum_{\substack{I \subseteq \underline{m} \text{ adm. but not 2-a.}, \\ \{1,2\} \not\subseteq I, |I|=m-j-2}} \prod_{i \in I} k_i$ . Formula (1) can be written as

$$(7) \quad k_1 k_2 A + k_1 B + k_2 A + A + B.$$

Now write the right hand side of (2) as

$$\underbrace{(k_1 + 1)s(k_3, \dots, k_m)}_{(*)} + \underbrace{s(k_3, \dots, k_m) - s(k_4 - 1, \dots, k_m)}_{(**)}.$$

Note that  $s(k_3, \dots, k_m) = A + B$ . Compute  $(*)$ , which is equal to  $(k_1 + 1)(A + B)$ . Since  $A$  is the sum over all 2-admissible sets and  $k_2 = 1$ , this is also equal to

$$(k_1 + 1)(k_2 A + B) = k_1 k_2 A + k_2 A + k_1 B + B.$$

Further we get that  $(**)$  is equal to

$$(A + B - B) = A.$$

Adding  $(*)$  and  $(**)$  yields (7). □

## 5. DESCRIPTION OF THE REGIONS IN THE FRIEZE

**The quiver of a triangulation.** We recall here how to get the quiver  $Q_{\mathcal{T}}$  of a triangulation. If  $\mathcal{T}$  is a triangulation of an  $n + 3$ -gon, we label the diagonals by  $1, 2, \dots, n$  and draw an arrow  $i \rightarrow j$  in case the diagonals share an endpoint and the diagonal  $i$  can be rotated clockwise to diagonal  $j$  (without passing through another diagonal incident with the common vertex). This is illustrated in Example 5.3 and Figure 6 below.

Let  $B$  be the cluster-tilted algebra associated to  $Q_{\mathcal{T}}$ . For  $x$  a vertex of this quiver, we write  $P_x$  for the projective  $B_{\mathcal{T}}$ -module of  $x$  and  $S_x$  for its simple top.

We then have  $B = \text{End}_{\mathcal{C}} T$ , where the cluster-tilting object

$$T = \bigoplus_{x \in \mathcal{T}} P_x$$

in  $\mathcal{C}$ . We can extend this to an object in the Frobenius category  $\mathcal{C}_f$  by adding the  $n + 3$  projective-injective summands associated to the boundary segments  $[12], [23], \dots, [n + 3, 1]$  of the polygon, with irreducible maps between the objects corresponding to diagonals/edges as follows:  $[i - 1, i + 1] \rightarrow [i, i + 1]$ ,  $[i, i + 1] \rightarrow [i, i + 2]$  ([JKS16, BKM16, DL16]). We denote the projective-injective associated to  $[i, i + 1]$  by  $Q_{x_i}$ . Let

$$T_f = (\oplus_{x \in \mathcal{T}} P_x) \oplus (Q_{x_1} \oplus \dots \oplus Q_{x_{n+3}})$$

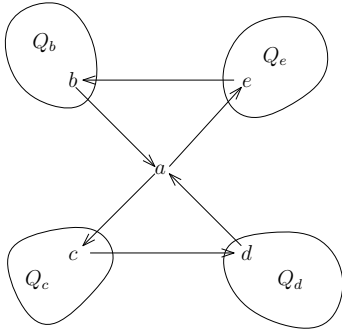
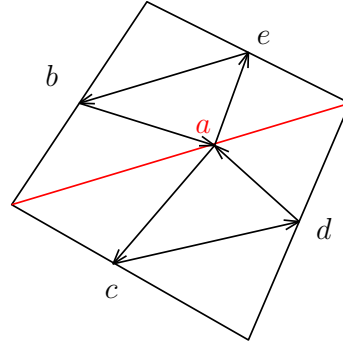


FIGURE 3. Regions in quiver.

FIGURE 4. Triangulation around  $a$ .

This is a cluster-tilting object of  $\mathcal{C}_f$  in the sense of [FK10, Section 3]. Given a  $B$ -module  $M$ , by abuse of notation, we denote the corresponding objects in  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{C}_f$  by  $M$ , that is  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(T, M) = M$ . In other words, an indecomposable object of  $\mathcal{C}_f$  is either an indecomposable  $B$ -module or  $Q_{x_i}$  for some  $i \in \{1, \dots, n+3\}$  or of the form  $P_x[1]$  for some  $x \in \mathcal{T}$

### 5.1. Diagonal defines quadrilateral.

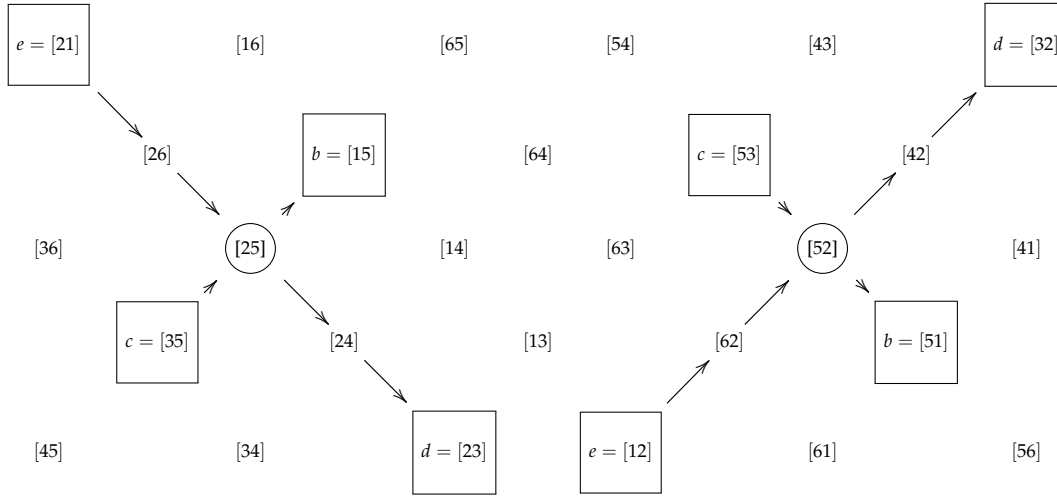
Let  $a$  be a diagonal in the triangulation,  $a \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ . This diagonal uniquely defines a quadrilateral formed by diagonals or boundary segments. Label them  $b, c, d, e$  as in Figure 4.

### 5.2. Diagonal defines two rays.

Consider the entry 1 of the frieze corresponding to  $a$ . There are two rays passing through it. We go along these rays forwards and backwards until we reach the first entry 1. As the frieze has two rows of ones bounding it, we will always reach an entry 1 in each of these four directions. Going forwards and upwards: the first occurrence of 1 corresponds to the diagonal  $b$ . Down and forwards: diagonal  $d$ . Backwards down from the entry corresponding to 1: diagonal  $c$  and backwards up: diagonal  $e$ . If we compare with the coordinate system for friezes of Section 1, the two rays through the object corresponding to diagonal  $a = [kl]$  are the entries  $m_{i,l}$  (with  $i$  varying) and  $m_{k,j}$  (with  $j$  varying).

*Example 5.1.* For illustration, we consider the triangulation  $\mathcal{T} = \{[25], [35], [15]\}$  of a hexagon. In the frieze pattern associated to  $\mathcal{T}$ , we have entries 1 at  $a = [25]$ , at the diagonals  $b = [15]$  and  $c = [35]$  as well as at the entries corresponding to edges  $d = [23]$  and  $e = [12]$  (Section 3.3). In the figure, the vertex for  $a$  is in a circle, the vertices for  $b, c, d, e$  are

in boxes.



In the AR quiver of  $\mathcal{C}_f$ , the entries for  $a, b$  and  $c$  are the shifted projectives  $P_a[1]$ ,  $P_b[1]$  and  $P_c[1]$ . The entries for  $d, e$  are the projective-injectives  $Q_{x_2}$  and  $Q_{x_1}$ .

In the frieze or in the AR quiver, we give the four segments between the entry 1 corresponding to  $a$  and the entries corresponding to  $b, c, d$  and  $e$  names (see Figure 5 for a larger example containing these paths). Whereas  $a$  is always a diagonal,  $b, c, d, e$  may be boundary segments. If  $b$  is a diagonal, the ray through  $P_a[1]$  goes through  $P_b[1]$ , and if  $b$  is a boundary segment, say  $b = [i, i + 1]$  (with  $a = [ij]$ ) this ray goes through  $Q_{x_i}$ . By abuse of notation, it will be more convenient to write this projective-injective as  $P_b[1]$  or as  $P_{x_i}[1]$  (if we want to emphasize that it is an object of the Frobenius category  $\mathcal{C}_f$  that does not live in  $\mathcal{C}$ ).

Let  $\epsilon$  and  $\varsigma$  denote the unique sectional paths in  $\mathcal{C}_f$  starting at  $P_a[1]$  and ending at  $P_b[1]$  and  $P_d[1]$  respectively, but not containing  $P_b[1]$  or  $P_d[1]$ . Similarly, let  $\flat$  and  $\flat$  denote the sectional paths in  $\mathcal{C}_f$  starting at  $P_e[1]$  and  $P_c[1]$  respectively and ending at  $P_a[1]$ , not containing  $P_e[1]$ ,  $P_c[1]$ , see Figure 5.

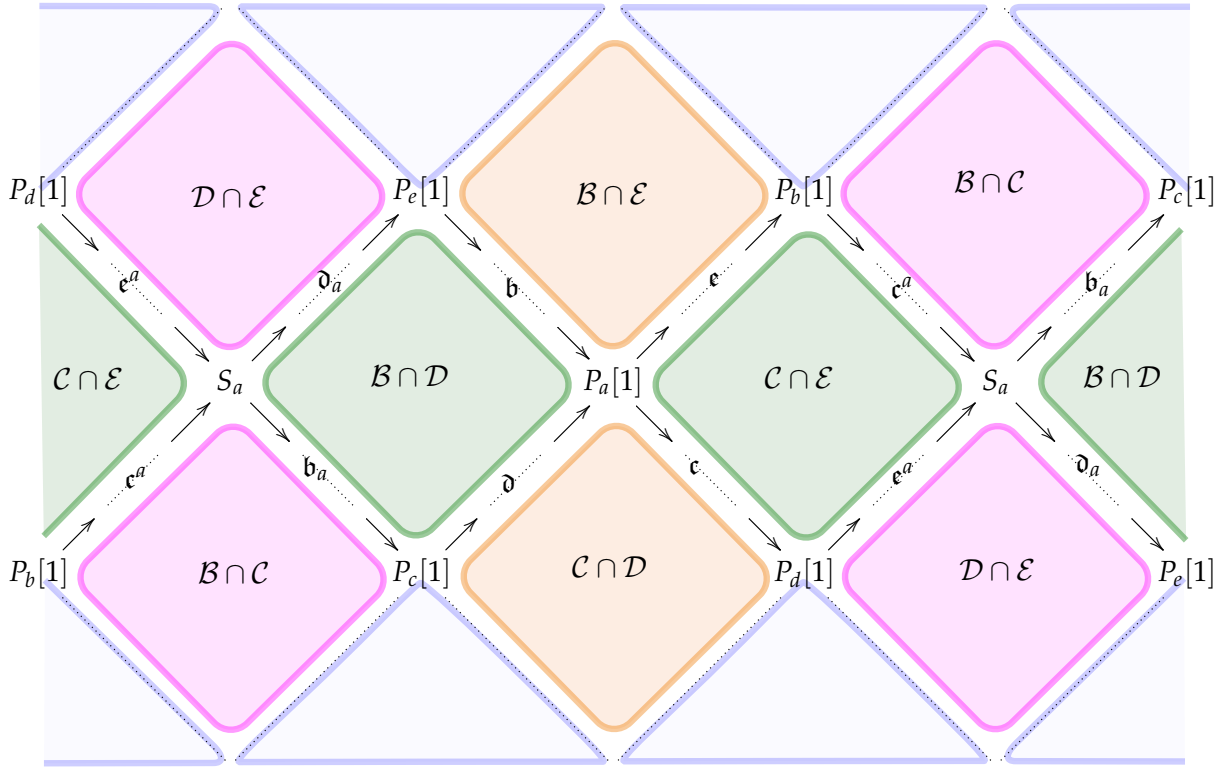
Note that  $b$  and  $d$  are opposite sides of the quadrilateral determined by  $a$ . In particular, the corresponding diagonals do not share endpoints. In other words,  $P_b[1]$  and  $P_d[1]$  do not lie on a common ray in the AR quiver. So by the combinatorics of  $\mathcal{C}_f$  there exist two distinct sectional paths starting at  $P_b[1], P_d[1]$ . These sectional paths both go through  $S_a$ . Let  $\epsilon^a, \epsilon^a$  denote these paths starting at  $P_b[1]$  and at  $P_d[1]$ , up to  $S_a$ , but not including  $P_b[1], P_d[1]$  respectively. Observe that the composition of  $\epsilon$  with  $\epsilon^a$  and the composition of  $\varsigma$  with  $\epsilon^a$  are not sectional, see Figure 5. Similarly, let  $\flat_a, \flat_a$  denote the two distinct sectional paths starting at  $S_a$  and ending at  $P_e[1], P_c[1]$  respectively but not including  $P_e[1], P_c[1]$ . Note that the composition of  $\epsilon^a$  with  $\flat_a$  and the composition of  $\epsilon^a$  with  $\flat_a$  are not sectional.

### 5.3. Diagonal defines subsets of indecomposables.

For  $x$  a diagonal in the triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$  and  $P_x$  the corresponding projective indecomposable, we write  $\mathcal{X}$  for the set of indecomposable  $B$ -modules having a non-zero homomorphism from  $P_x$  into them,  $\mathcal{X} = \{M \in \text{ind } B \mid \text{Hom}(P_x, M) \neq 0\}$ . Given a  $B$ -module  $M$ , its support is the full subquiver  $\text{supp}(M)$  of  $Q_{\mathcal{T}}$  generated by all vertices  $x$  of  $Q_{\mathcal{T}}$  such that  $M \in \mathcal{X}$ . It is well known that the support of an indecomposable module is connected.

If  $x$  is a boundary segment, we set  $\mathcal{X}$  to be the empty set (there is no projective indecomposable associated to  $x$ , so there are no indecomposables reached).

We use the notation above to describe the regions in the frieze. Thus, if  $x, y$  are diagonals or boundary segments, we write  $\mathcal{X} \cap \mathcal{Y}$  for the indecomposable objects in  $\mathcal{C}$  that have  $x$  and  $y$  in their support.

FIGURE 5. Regions in the AR quiver determined by  $P_a[1]$ .

*Remark 5.2.* Let  $M$  be an indecomposable  $B$ -module in  $\mathcal{X} \cap \mathcal{Y}$  such that there exists a (unique) arrow  $\alpha : x \rightarrow y$  in the quiver. It follows that the right action of the element  $\alpha \in B$  on  $M$  is nonzero, that is  $M\alpha \neq 0$ .

By the remark above we have the following equalities. Note that none of the modules below are supported at  $a$ , because the same remark would imply that such modules are supported on the entire 3-cycle in  $Q_{\mathcal{T}}$  containing  $a$ . However, this is impossible as the composition of any two arrows in a 3-cycles is zero in  $B$ . We have

$$\mathcal{B} \cap \mathcal{E} = \{M \in \text{ind } B \mid M \text{ is supported on } e \rightarrow b\}$$

$$\mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{D} = \{M \in \text{ind } B \mid M \text{ is supported on } c \rightarrow d\}$$

Moreover, since the support of an indecomposable  $B$ -module forms a connected subquiver of  $Q$ , we also have the following equalities.

$$\mathcal{B} \cap \mathcal{C} = \{M \in \text{ind } B \mid M \text{ is supported on } b \rightarrow a \rightarrow c\}$$

$$\mathcal{D} \cap \mathcal{E} = \{M \in \text{ind } B \mid M \text{ is supported on } d \rightarrow a \rightarrow e\}$$

$$\mathcal{B} \cap \mathcal{D} = \{M \in \text{ind } B \mid M \text{ is supported on } b \rightarrow a \leftarrow d\}$$

$$\mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{E} = \{M \in \text{ind } B \mid M \text{ is supported on } c \leftarrow a \rightarrow e\}$$

Finally, using similar reasoning it is easy to see that the sets described above are disjoint. Next we describe modules lying on sectional paths defined in section 5.2. First, consider



sectional paths starting or ending in  $P_a[1]$ , then we claim that

$$\mathfrak{i} = \{M \in \text{ind } B \mid i \in \text{supp}(M) \subset Q_i\} \cup \{P_a[1]\}$$

for all  $i \in \{b, c, d, e\}$ , for  $Q_i$  the subquiver of  $Q$  containing  $i$ , as in Figure 3.

We show that the claim holds for  $i = b$ , but similar arguments can be used to justify the remaining cases. Note, that it suffices to show that a module  $M \in \mathfrak{b}$  is supported on  $b$  but it is not supported on  $e$  or  $a$ . By construction the sectional path  $\mathfrak{b}$  starts at  $P_e[1]$ , so  $0 = \text{Hom}(\tau^{-1}P_e[1], M) = \text{Hom}(P_e, M)$ . On the other hand,  $\mathfrak{b}$  ends at  $P_a[1]$ , so  $0 = \text{Hom}(M, \tau P_a[1]) = \text{Hom}(M, I_a)$ , where  $I_a$  is the injective  $B$ -module at  $a$ . This shows that  $M$  is not supported at  $e$  or  $a$ . Finally, we can see from Figure 5 that  $M$  has a nonzero morphism into  $\tau P_b[1] = I_b$ , provided that  $b$  is not a boundary segment. However, if  $b$  is a boundary segment, then  $\mathfrak{b} \cap \text{Ob}(\text{mod } B) = \emptyset$  and we have  $\mathfrak{b} = \{P_a[1]\}$ . Conversely, it also follows from Figure 5 that every module  $M$  supported on  $b$  and some other vertices of  $Q_b$  lies on  $\mathfrak{b}$ . This shows the claim.

Now consider sectional paths starting or ending in  $S_a$ . Using similar arguments as above we see that

$$\mathfrak{i}^a = \{M \in \text{ind } B \mid a \in \text{supp}(M) \subset Q_i^a\}$$

for  $i \in \{c, e\}$  and

$$\mathfrak{i}_a = \{M \in \text{ind } B \mid a \in \text{supp}(M) \subset Q_i^a\}$$

for  $i \in \{b, d\}$ , where  $Q_i^a$  is the full subquiver of  $Q$  on vertices of  $Q_i$  and the vertex  $a$ .

Finally, we define  $\mathcal{F}$  to be the set of indecomposable objects of  $\mathcal{C}_f$  that do not belong to

$$\mathcal{A} \cup \mathcal{B} \cup \mathcal{C} \cup \mathcal{D} \cup \mathcal{E} \cup \{P_a[1]\}.$$

The region  $\mathcal{F}$  is a succession of wings in the AR quiver of  $\mathcal{C}_f$ , with peaks at the  $P_x[1]$  for  $x \in \{b, c, d, e\}$ . That is, in the AR quiver of  $\mathcal{C}_f$  consider two neighboured copies of  $P_a[1]$  with the four vertices  $P_b[1], P_c[1], P_d[1], P_e[1]$ . Then the indecomposables of  $\mathcal{F}$  are the vertices in the triangular regions below these four vertices, including them (as their peaks). By the glide symmetry, we also have these regions at the top of the frieze. In Figure 5, the wings are the shaded unlabelled regions at the boundary. It corresponds to the diagonals inside and bounding the shaded regions in Figure 6. We will see in the next section that objects in  $\mathcal{F}$  do not change under mutation of  $T_f$  at  $P_a[1]$ .

*Example 5.3.* We consider the triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$  of a 13-gon, see left hand of Figure 6 and the triangulation  $\mathcal{T}' = \mu_1(\mathcal{T})$  obtained by flipping diagonal 1.

The quivers of  $\mathcal{T}$  and of  $\mathcal{T}'$  are given below. Note that the quiver  $Q$  is the same as in Example 3.1.

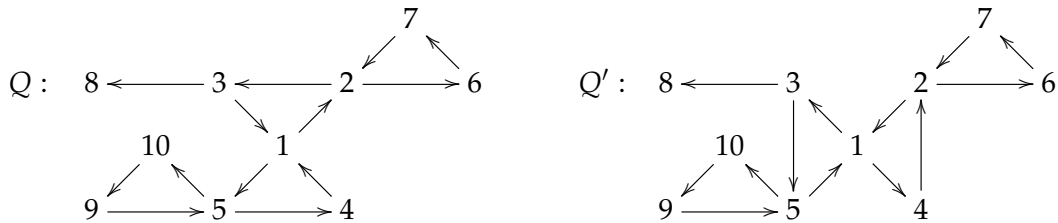
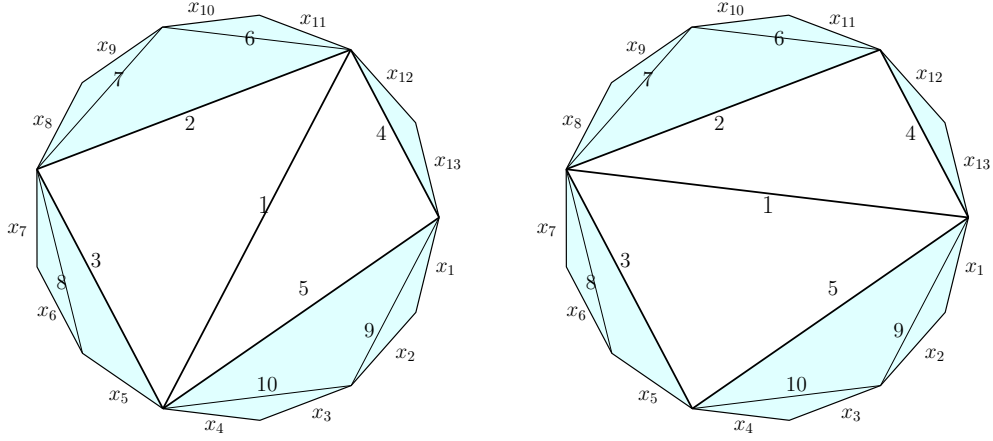
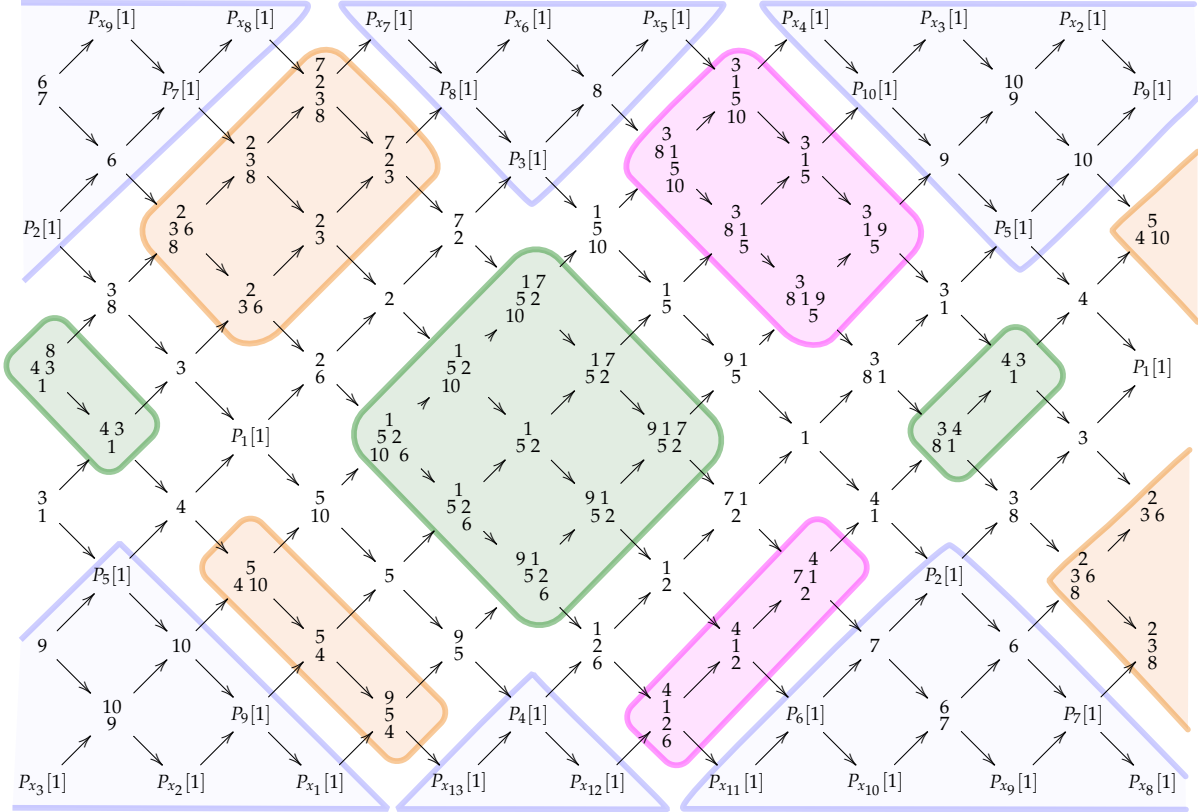


Figure 7 shows the Auslander-Reiten quiver of the cluster category  $\mathcal{C}_f$  for  $Q$ .

In Figure 8 (Section 6), the frieze patterns of  $T$  and of  $T'$  are given.

FIGURE 6. Triangulations  $\mathcal{T}$  and  $\mathcal{T}' = \mu_1(\mathcal{T})$ FIGURE 7. AR quiver of the category  $\mathcal{C}_f$  arising from  $Q$ 

## 6. MUTATING FRIEZES

The goal of this section is to describe the effect of the flip of a diagonal or equivalently the mutation at an indecomposable projective on the associated frieze. We give a formula for computing the effect of the mutation using the specialised Caldero Chapoton map. Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be a triangulation of a polygon with associated quiver  $Q$ . The quiver  $Q$  looks as in Figure 3,

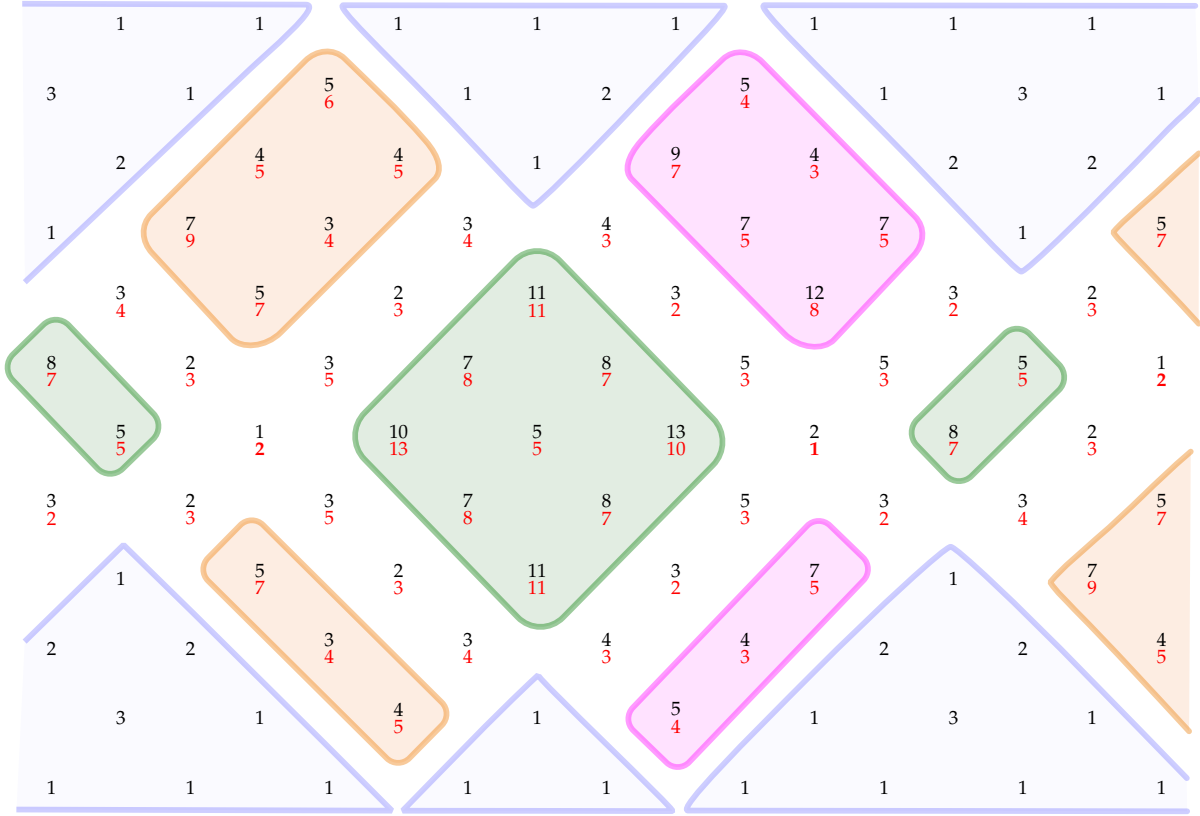
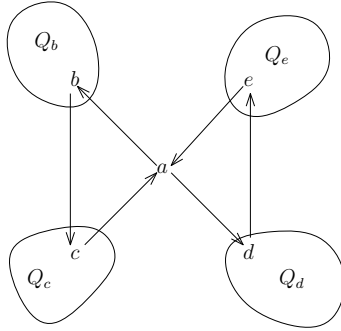


FIGURE 8. Frieze pattern of Example 5.3. Red entries: after flip of diagonal 1

FIGURE 9. Quiver after flipping diagonal  $a$ 

where the subquivers  $Q_b, Q_c, Q_d, Q_e$  may be empty. Let  $T = \bigoplus_{x \in T} P_x$  and  $B = \text{End}_C T$  be the associated cluster-tilted algebra.

Take  $a \in \mathcal{T}$  and let  $\mathcal{T}' = \mu_a(\mathcal{T})$  be the triangulation obtained from flipping  $a$ , with quiver  $Q' = \mu_a(Q)$  (Figure 9).

Let  $B'$  be the algebra obtained through this, it is the cluster-tilted algebra for  $T' = \bigoplus_{x \in \mathcal{T}'} P_x$ . If  $M$  is an indecomposable  $B$ -module, we write  $M'$  for  $\mu_a(M)$  in the sense of [DWZ08]. If  $M$  is an indecomposable  $B$ -module, the *entry* of  $M$  in the frieze  $F(T)$  is the entry at the position of  $M$  in the frieze. In other words, the entry of  $M$  equals  $\rho_T(M)$ , the specialized Caldero Chapoton map evaluated at  $M$ . Also, recall that  $\mathcal{C}_f$  denotes the Frobenius category obtained from the cluster category  $\mathcal{C}$  by adding projective-injective objects, and we extended the definition of  $\rho_T$  to  $\mathcal{C}_f$  in Section 3.5.

**Definition 6.1.** Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be a triangulation of a polygon,  $a \in \mathcal{T}$  and  $M$  an indecomposable object of  $\mathcal{C}_f$ . Then we define the *frieze difference* (w.r.t. mutation at  $a$ )  $\delta_a : \text{ind } \mathcal{C}_f \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  by

$$\delta_a(M) = \rho_{\mathcal{T}}(M) - \rho_{\mathcal{T}'}(M') \in \mathbb{Z}$$

In Section 6.1 we first describe the effect mutation has on the regions in the frieze. This gives us all the necessary tools to compute the frieze difference  $\delta_a$  (Section 6.3).

### 6.1. Mutation of regions.

Here we describe how mutation affects the regions (Section 5.3) of the frieze  $F(T)$ . Let  $\mathcal{T}, a, B$  and  $\mathcal{T}', B'$  be as above. When mutating at  $a$ , the change in support of the indecomposable modules can be described explicitly in terms of the local quiver around  $a$ . This is what we will do here. We first describe the regions in the AR quiver of  $\mathcal{C}_f$  for  $B'$ .

If  $x$  is a diagonal or a boundary segment, we write

$$\mathcal{X}' = \{M \in \text{ind } B' \mid \text{Hom}(P_x, M) \neq 0\}$$

for the indecomposable modules supported on  $x$ .

After mutating  $a$ , the regions in the AR quiver are still determined by the projective indecomposables corresponding to the framing diagonals (or edges)  $b, c, d, e$ . The relative positions of  $a, b, c, d$  and  $e$  have changed, however it follows from [DWZ08] that except for vertex  $a$  the support of an indecomposable module at all other vertices remains the same. Therefore, the regions are now described as follows:

$$\mathcal{B}' \cap \mathcal{E}' = \{M \in \text{ind } B' \mid M \text{ is supported on } e \rightarrow a \rightarrow b\}$$

$$\mathcal{C}' \cap \mathcal{D}' = \{M \in \text{ind } B' \mid M \text{ is supported on } c \rightarrow a \rightarrow d\}$$

$$\mathcal{B}' \cap \mathcal{C}' = \{M \in \text{ind } B' \mid M \text{ is supported on } b \rightarrow c\}$$

$$\mathcal{D}' \cap \mathcal{E}' = \{M \in \text{ind } B' \mid M \text{ is supported on } d \rightarrow e\}$$

$$\mathcal{B}' \cap \mathcal{D}' = \{M \in \text{ind } B' \mid M \text{ is supported on } b \leftarrow a \rightarrow d\}$$

$$\mathcal{C}' \cap \mathcal{E}' = \{M \in \text{ind } B' \mid M \text{ is supported on } c \rightarrow a \leftarrow e\}$$

Under the mutation at  $a$ , if a module  $M$  lies on one of the rays  $b_a, \partial_a \epsilon^a$  and  $\epsilon^a$  then  $M'$  is obtained from  $M$  by removing support at vertex  $a$ . The modules lying on the remaining four rays gain support at vertex  $a$  after the mutation.

### 6.2. Submodules and short exact sequences.

Let  $B$  be a cluster-tilted algebra of type  $A_n$ . We begin by showing three formulas for the number of submodules of a given  $M \in \text{ind } B$  in terms of the number of submodules of certain quotients and submodules of  $M$ .

**Lemma 6.2.** Let  $M \in \text{ind } B$  such that  $M = (\dots z \leftarrow x \rightarrow y \dots)$ , and consider two indecomposable submodules  $M_z, M_y$  of  $M$  supported on  $z, y$  respectively, such that there exists a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow M_z \oplus M_y \rightarrow M \rightarrow S_x \rightarrow 0$$

ending in a simple module  $S_x$ . Then

$$s(M) = s(M_z)s(M_y) + s(\tilde{M}_z)s(\tilde{M}_y)$$

where  $\tilde{M}_z, \tilde{M}_y$  are maximal quotients of  $M_z, M_y$  respectively, that are not supported on  $z, y$ .

*Proof.* By the combinatorics of string modules and morphisms between them, it follows that  $X$  is a quotient of a module  $Y$  if and only if  $X$  is closed under predecessors in  $Y$ . That is, if  $Y$  is supported on an arrow  $u \rightarrow v$  and  $X$  is supported on  $v$  then it must also be supported on  $u \rightarrow v$ . This implies that  $\tilde{M}_z$  can be obtained from  $M_z$  by removing all paths starting at  $z$ . Thus, constructed in this way  $\tilde{M}_z$  is indeed predecessor closed and maximal in  $M_z$ . This shows that  $\tilde{M}_z$  and similarly  $\tilde{M}_y$  are unique up to isomorphisms. Furthermore, any quotient of  $M_z$  that is not supported at  $z$  must also be a quotient of  $\tilde{M}_z$  as  $M_z$  is maximal and any path closed under predecessors in  $M_z$  is also closed under predecessors in  $\tilde{M}_z$ . This shows that up to isomorphisms the number of quotients of  $\tilde{M}_z$  equals the number of quotients of  $M_z$  not supported at  $z$ . Similar statement also holds for the quotients of  $\tilde{M}_y$ .

Recall that  $s(M)$  stands for the number of isoclasses of submodules of  $M$ , however in the following computations we only consider submodules up to isomorphisms. Therefore, we omit the term isoclasses to simplify the notation. Also, some of the modules defined above can be zero in which case they admit only one submodule, the zero submodule.

$$s(M) = \#\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{submodules of } M \\ \text{supported on } x \end{array} \right\} + \#\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{submodules of } M \\ \text{not supported on } x \end{array} \right\}$$

The right hand summand can be simplified as follows.

$$\#\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{submodules of } M \\ \text{not supported on } x \end{array} \right\} = \#\{\text{submodules of } M_z \oplus M_y\} = s(M_z)s(M_y)$$

Now consider the left hand summand.

$$\begin{aligned} \#\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{submodules of } M \\ \text{supported on } x \end{array} \right\} &= \#\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{submodules of } M \\ \text{supported on } x, y, z \end{array} \right\} \\ &= \#\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{submodules of } M_z \\ \text{supported on } z \end{array} \right\} \times \#\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{submodules of } M_y \\ \text{supported on } y \end{array} \right\} \\ &= \#\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{quotients of } M_z \\ \text{not supported on } z \end{array} \right\} \times \#\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{quotients of } M_y \\ \text{not supported on } y \end{array} \right\} \\ &= \#\{\text{quotients of } \tilde{M}_z\} \times \#\{\text{quotients of } \tilde{M}_y\} \\ &= \#\{\text{submodules of } \tilde{M}_z\} \times \#\{\text{submodules of } \tilde{M}_y\} \\ &= s(\tilde{M}_z)s(\tilde{M}_y) \end{aligned}$$

□

The following statement is the dual version of the lemma above, so we state it without proof.

**Lemma 6.3.** *Let  $M \in \text{ind } B$  such that  $M = (\dots z \rightarrow x \leftarrow y \dots)$ , and consider two indecomposable quotients  $M_z, M_y$  of  $M$  supported on  $z, y$  respectively, such that there exists a short exact sequence*

$$0 \rightarrow S_x \rightarrow M \rightarrow M_z \oplus M_y \rightarrow 0$$

*ending in a simple module  $S_x$ . Then*

$$s(M) = s(M_z)s(M_y) + s(\overline{M}_z)s(\overline{M}_y)$$

*where  $\overline{M}_z, \overline{M}_y$  are maximal submodules of  $M_z, M_y$  respectively, that are not supported on  $z, y$ .*

The next lemma shows the final formula for  $s(M)$ .

**Lemma 6.4.** *Let  $M \in \text{ind } B$  such that  $M = (\dots x \rightarrow y \dots)$ , and consider two indecomposable modules  $M_x, M_y$  supported on  $x, y$  respectively such that there exists a short exact sequence*

$$0 \rightarrow M_y \rightarrow M \rightarrow M_x \rightarrow 0.$$

Then

$$s(M) = s(M_y)s(M_x) - s(\tilde{M}_x)s(\overline{M}_y)$$

where  $\tilde{M}_x$  is a maximal quotient of  $M_x$  not supported on  $x$ , and  $\overline{M}_y$  is a maximal submodule of  $M_y$  not supported on  $y$ .

*Proof.* In the following computation, we omit the term isoclasses when referring to the number of submodules (up to isomorphisms). Also, some of the modules defined above can be zero in which case they admit only one submodule, the zero submodule. Given a module  $M$  as in the statement we have

$$s(M) = \#\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{submodules of } M \\ \text{supported on } x \end{array} \right\} + \#\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{submodules of } M \\ \text{not supported on } x \end{array} \right\}.$$

The left hand summand can be reinterpreted as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} \#\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{submodules of } M \\ \text{supported on } x \end{array} \right\} &= \#\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{submodules of } M \\ \text{supported on } x, y \end{array} \right\} \\ &= \#\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{submodules of } M_x \\ \text{supported on } x \end{array} \right\} \times \#\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{submodules of } M_y \\ \text{supported on } y \end{array} \right\} \\ &= \#\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{quotients of } M_x \\ \text{not supported on } x \end{array} \right\} \times \left[ \#\{\text{submodules of } M_y\} - \#\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{submodules of } M_y \\ \text{not supported on } y \end{array} \right\} \right] \\ &= \#\{\text{quotients of } \tilde{M}_x\} \times \left[ \#\{\text{submodules of } M_y\} - \#\{\text{submodules of } \overline{M}_y\} \right] \\ &= \#\{\text{submodules of } \tilde{M}_x\} \times [s(M_y) - s(\overline{M}_y)] \\ &= s(\tilde{M}_x)(s(M_y) - s(\overline{M}_y)) \end{aligned}$$

The right hand summand equals  $s(M_y)s(\overline{M}_x)$ , where  $\overline{M}_x$  is the maximal submodule of  $M_x$  not supported on  $x$ . Using similar reasoning as above, we have  $s(\overline{M}_x) = s(M_x) - s(\tilde{M}_x)$ . Therefore, combining the two computations above we obtain the desired result.

$$\begin{aligned} s(M) &= s(\tilde{M}_x)(s(M_y) - s(\overline{M}_y)) + s(M_y)(s(M_x) - s(\tilde{M}_x)) \\ &= s(M_y)s(M_x) - s(\tilde{M}_x)s(\overline{M}_y) \end{aligned}$$

□

*Remark 6.5.* With the notation of Lemma 6.4 we emphasize two special cases when one of the modules  $M_x, M_y$  is a simple module.

- (a) If  $M_y = S_y$  then  $M = (\dots x \rightarrow y)$ , and we have  $s(M) = 2s(M_x) - s(\tilde{M}_x)$ , because  $s(S_y) = 2$  and  $s(\overline{S}_y) = s(0) = 1$ . It will be useful to rewrite the above equation in the following way

$$s(M) - s(M_x) = s(M_x) - s(\tilde{M}_x) = s(\overline{M}_x)$$

where  $\overline{M}_x$  is the maximal submodule of  $M_x$  not supported at  $x$ .

- (b) Similarly, if  $M_x = S_x$  then  $M = (x \rightarrow y \dots)$ , and we have  $s(M) = 2s(M_y) - s(\overline{M}_y)$ . Also, we can rewrite this equation as

$$s(M) - s(M_y) = s(M_y) - s(\overline{M}_y) = s(\tilde{M}_y)$$

where  $\tilde{M}_y$  is the maximal quotient of  $M_y$  not supported at  $y$ .

We will also need the following result.



**Lemma 6.6.** *Let  $M_x \in \text{ind } B$  such that  $x$  is a start of the corresponding string and we write  $M_x = (x \dots)$ . Consider two modules  $M_{x_y} = (y \leftarrow x \dots)$ ,  $M_{x^z} = (z \rightarrow x \dots)$  obtained by extending  $M_x$  by simple modules  $S_y, S_z$ , respectively, such that there exist short exact sequences as follows.*

$$0 \rightarrow S_y \rightarrow M_{x_y} \rightarrow M_x \rightarrow 0 \qquad 0 \rightarrow M_x \rightarrow M_{x^z} \rightarrow S_z \rightarrow 0$$

Then

$$s(M_{x_y}) - s(M_x) = 2s(M_x) - s(M_{x^z}).$$

*Proof.* Applying Remark 6.5(a) to the first short exact sequence with  $M = M_{x_y}$ , we see that

$$s(M_{x_y}) = 2s(M_x) - s(\widetilde{M}_x)$$

where  $\widetilde{M}_x$  is the maximal quotient of  $M_x$  not supported at  $x$ . Now applying Remark 6.5(b) to the second short exact sequence with  $M = M_{x^z}$  and  $M_y = M_x$ , we obtain

$$s(M_{x^z}) - s(M_x) = s(\widetilde{M}_x).$$

Solving this equation for  $s(\widetilde{M}_x)$  and substituting this resulting expression into the first equation we obtain the desired formula.  $\square$

### 6.3. Mutation of frieze.

We next present the main result of this section, the effect of flip on the generalized Caldero Chapoton map, i.e. the description of the frieze difference  $\delta_a$ . We begin by introducing the necessary notation.

Depending on the position of an indecomposable object  $M$  we define several projection maps sending  $M$  to objects on the eight rays from Section 5.2.

Let  $M \in \text{ind } B$ , and let  $i$  be one of the sectional paths defined in section 5.2. Suppose  $M \notin i$ , then we denote by  $M_i$  a module on  $i$  if there exists a sectional path  $M_i \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow M$  or  $M \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow M_i$  in  $\mathcal{C}_f$ , otherwise we let  $M_i = 0$ . If  $M \in i$  then we let  $M_i = M$ . In the case when it is well-defined, we call  $M_i$  the *projection* of  $M$  onto the path  $i$ .

*Remark 6.7.* Given an indecomposable module  $M$  and its projection  $M_i$ , the module  $M_i$  can be easily described in terms of the support of  $M$  and the location of the ray  $i$ . For example, if  $M \in \mathcal{B} \cap \mathcal{C}$  then  $M = (\dots b \rightarrow a \rightarrow c \dots)$ . Note that  $M_{c^a}$  is not supported at  $b$ , and there exists an  $B$ -module homomorphism  $M_{c^a} \rightarrow M$  that does not factor through any other module lying on the ray  $c^a$ . This implies that  $M_{c^a} = (a \rightarrow c \dots)$  is the maximal submodule of  $M$  that is not supported at  $b$ . Similarly,  $M_{b_a} = (\dots b \rightarrow a)$  is the maximal quotient of  $M$  not supported at  $c$ .

On the other hand if we consider  $M \in \mathcal{B} \cap \mathcal{E}$  then  $M = (\dots e \rightarrow b \dots)$ . As above, the projection  $M_b$  onto the ray  $b$  is the largest submodule of  $M$  not supported at  $e$ . However,  $M_{b_a}$  is obtained from  $M_b$  by extending it by a simple module  $S_a$ , thus  $M_{b_a} = (a \leftarrow b \dots)$  and there exists a short exact sequence

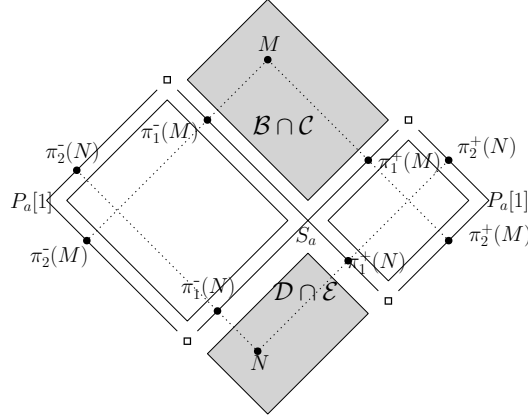
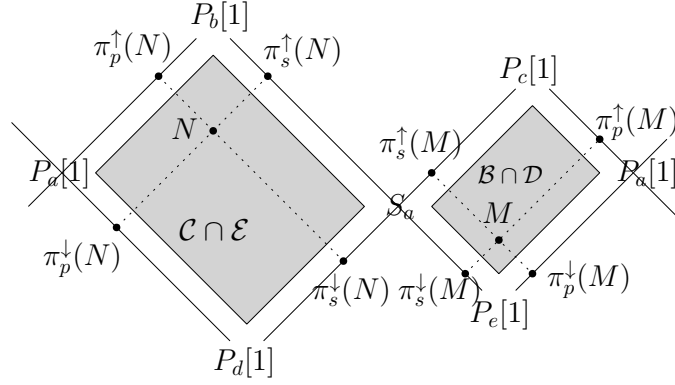
$$0 \rightarrow S_a \rightarrow M_{b_a} \rightarrow M_b \rightarrow 0.$$

Note that unlike in the previous computations  $M_{b_a}$  is neither a quotient nor a submodule of  $M$ .

In this way given  $M$  we can construct the corresponding  $M_i$ , provided that the projection is well defined.

It will be convenient to write these projections in a uniform way.

**Definition 6.8** (Projections). If  $M$  is a vertex of one of the regions  $\mathcal{B} \cap \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D} \cap \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{B} \cap \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{D}$  there exists a unique sectional path  $\gamma^+$  (resp.  $\gamma^-$ ) starting (resp. ending) at  $M$  such that  $\gamma^+$  (resp.  $\gamma^-$ ) intersects two other sectional paths: one passing through  $P_a[1]$  and the other passing through  $S_a$ . The projection of  $M$  onto the closest of these two paths along  $\gamma^+$  we

FIGURE 10. Projections for  $\mathcal{B} \cap \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D} \cap \mathcal{E}$ FIGURE 11. Projections for  $\overline{\mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{E}}, \overline{\mathcal{B} \cap \mathcal{D}}$ 

call  $\pi_1^+(M)$  and the projection onto the second path  $\pi_2^+(M)$ . The projection of  $M$  onto the closest path along  $\gamma^-$  is denoted by  $\pi_1^-(M)$  and onto the second path  $\pi_2^-(M)$ .

Figure 10 illustrates these projections in the case  $(x, y) \in \{(b, c), (d, e)\}$ .

The remaining two regions will be treated together with the surrounding paths.

**Definition 6.9.** The *closure* of  $\mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{E}$  is the Hom-hammock

$$\overline{\mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{E}} = \text{ind}(\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}_f}(P_a[1], -) \cap \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}_f}(-, S_a))$$

in  $\mathcal{C}_f$  starting at  $P_a[1]$  and ending at  $S_a$ . Similarly, the *closure* of  $\mathcal{B} \cap \mathcal{D}$  is the Hom-hammock

$$\overline{\mathcal{B} \cap \mathcal{D}} = \text{ind}(\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}_f}(S_a, -) \cap \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}_f}(-, P_a[1]))$$

in  $\mathcal{C}_f$  starting at  $S_a$  and ending at  $P_a[1]$ . For  $(x, y) \in \{(c, e), (b, d)\}$ , the *boundary* of  $\overline{\mathcal{X} \cap \mathcal{Y}}$  (or of  $\mathcal{X} \cap \mathcal{Y}$ ) is  $\overline{\mathcal{X} \cap \mathcal{Y}} \setminus (\mathcal{X} \cap \mathcal{Y})$ .

Note that  $\overline{\mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{E}}$  is the union of  $\mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{E}$  with the surrounding segments of rays and the shifted projectives  $\{P_b[1], P_d[1]\}$ . Analogously,  $\overline{\mathcal{B} \cap \mathcal{D}}$  contains  $\{P_c[1], P_e[1]\}$ .

**Definition 6.10** (Projections, continued). If  $M$  is a vertex of one of the two closures  $\overline{\mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{E}}, \overline{\mathcal{B} \cap \mathcal{D}}$ , we define four projections for  $M$  onto the four different “edges” of the boundary of its region: We denote the projections onto the paths starting or ending next to  $P_a[1]$  by  $\pi_p^\uparrow, \pi_p^\downarrow$  and the projections onto the paths starting or ending next to  $S_a$  by  $\pi_s^\uparrow$  and  $\pi_s^\downarrow$  respectively. We choose the upwards arrow to refer to the paths ending/starting near  $P_b[1]$

or  $P_c[1]$  and the downwards arrow to refer to paths ending/starting near  $P_d[1]$  or  $P_e[1]$ . See Figure 11.

*Remark.* The statement of Theorem 6.12 is independent of the choice of  $\uparrow$  (paths near  $P_b[1]$  or  $P_c[1]$ ) and  $\downarrow$  in Definition 6.10 as the formula is symmetric in these expressions.

*Example 6.11.* If  $M \in \mathfrak{c}$ , we have  $\pi_p^\uparrow(M) = M$ ,  $\pi_s^\uparrow(M) = P_b[1]$ ,  $\pi_p^\downarrow(M) = P_a[1]$  and  $\pi_s^\downarrow(M) = M_{c^a}$ .

For  $S_a$  we have  $\pi_s^\uparrow(S_a) = \pi_s^\downarrow(S_a) = S_a$  whereas the two modules  $\pi_p^\uparrow(S_a)$  and  $\pi_p^\downarrow(S_a)$  are  $\{P_b[1], P_d[1]\}$  or  $\{P_c[1], P_e[1]\}$  depending on whether  $S_a$  is viewed as an element of  $\overline{\mathcal{C}} \cap \overline{\mathcal{E}}$  or of  $\overline{\mathcal{B}} \cap \overline{\mathcal{D}}$ .

For  $P_a[1]$ , we have  $\pi_p^\uparrow(P_a[1]) = \pi_p^\downarrow(P_a[1]) = P_a[1]$  whereas the two modules  $\pi_s^\uparrow(P_a[1])$  and  $\pi_s^\downarrow(P_a[1])$  are  $\{P_b[1], P_d[1]\}$  or  $\{P_c[1], P_e[1]\}$ . These four shifted projectives evaluate to 1 under  $s$ , and so in Theorem 6.12, this ambiguity does not play a role.

With this notation we are ready to state the theorem.

**Theorem 6.12.** *Let  $M$  be an indecomposable object of  $\mathcal{C}_f$ . Then  $\delta_a(M)$  is given by:*

*If  $M \in (\mathcal{B} \cap \mathcal{C}) \cup (\mathcal{D} \cap \mathcal{E})$  then*

$$\delta_a(M) = (s(\pi_1^+(M)) - s(\pi_2^+(M))) (s(\pi_1^-(M)) - s(\pi_2^-(M)));$$

*If  $M \in (\mathcal{B} \cap \mathcal{E}) \cup (\mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{D})$  then*

$$\delta_a(M) = -(s(\pi_2^+(M)) - 2s(\pi_1^+(M))) (s(\pi_2^-(M)) - 2s(\pi_1^-(M)));$$

*If  $M \in \overline{\mathcal{C}} \cap \overline{\mathcal{E}} \cup \overline{\mathcal{B}} \cap \overline{\mathcal{D}}$  then*

$$\delta_a(M) = s(\pi_s^\downarrow(M))s(\pi_p^\downarrow(M)) + s(\pi_s^\uparrow(M))s(\pi_p^\uparrow(M)) - 3s(\pi_p^\downarrow(M))s(\pi_p^\uparrow(M));$$

*If  $M \in \mathcal{F}$  then*

$$\delta_a(M) = 0.$$

*Proof.* By definition  $\delta_a(M) = \rho_{\mathcal{T}}(M) - \rho_{\mathcal{T}'}(M')$ , which in turn equals  $s(M) - s(M')$ . Now we consider various cases based on the location of an indecomposable object  $M$  in  $\mathcal{C}_f$ . Note that  $M$  satisfies exactly one of the four conditions in the definition of  $\delta_a(M)$  stated in the theorem.

Suppose  $M \in \mathcal{B} \cap \mathcal{C}$ , then by definition  $M = (\dots b \rightarrow a \rightarrow c \dots)$ . We also have a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow M_{c^a} \rightarrow M \rightarrow M_b \rightarrow 0$$

in mod  $B$  where  $M_{c^a}, M_b$  are projections of  $M$  onto the rays  $c^a, b$  respectively. Note that by Remark 6.7 we know that  $M_{c^a} = (a \rightarrow c \dots)$  is a submodule of  $M$  and  $M_b = (\dots b)$  is a quotient of  $M$ .

It follows from Section 6.1 that  $M'$  is obtained from  $M$  by removing the support at vertex  $a$ , so  $M' = (\dots b \rightarrow c \dots)$ , and we have the following sequence in mod  $B'$

$$0 \rightarrow M_c \rightarrow M' \rightarrow M_b \rightarrow 0$$

where  $M_c = (c \dots)$  is the projection of  $M$  onto the ray  $c$ . Also, note that  $M_c, M_b$  are  $B$ -modules, however they can also be thought of as modules over  $B'$  because they are supported on the subquivers of  $Q$  that are not affected by mutation at vertex  $a$ . By Lemma 6.4 we obtain formulas for  $s(M)$  and  $s(M')$

$$s(M) = s(M_b)s(M_{c^a}) - s(\tilde{M}_b)s(\overline{M}_{c^a}) \quad s(M') = s(M_b)s(M_c) - s(\tilde{M}_b)s(\overline{M}_c)$$

that correspond to the given short exact sequences. By definition  $\overline{M}_{c^a}$  is a maximal submodule of  $M_{c^a}$  that is not supported on  $a$ , therefore  $\overline{M}_{c^a} = M_c$ . Combining the two formulas we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
s(M) - s(M') &= s(M_b)(s(M_{c^a}) - s(M_c)) - s(\tilde{M}_b)(s(M_c) - s(\overline{M}_c)) \\
&= (s(M_b) - s(\tilde{M}_b))(s(M_{c^a}) - s(M_c)) \\
&= (s(M_{b_a}) - s(M_b))(s(M_{c^a}) - s(M_c)) \\
&= (s(\pi_1^+(M)) - s(\pi_2^+(M)))(s(\pi_1^-(M)) - s(\pi_2^-(M)))
\end{aligned}$$

where the second equality follows from Remark 6.5(b) letting  $M = M_{c^a} = (a \rightarrow c \dots)$  and  $M_y = M_c$ . The third equality follows from Remark 6.5(a) letting  $M = M_{b_a} = (\dots b \rightarrow a)$  and  $M_x = M_b$ . This shows that the theorem holds in the case  $M \in \mathcal{B} \cap \mathcal{C}$ . Similar argument implies the result in the case  $M \in \mathcal{D} \cap \mathcal{E}$ .

Suppose  $M \in \mathcal{B} \cap \mathcal{E}$ , then we know that  $M = (\dots e \rightarrow b \dots)$ . By projecting  $M$  onto  $\mathfrak{b}, \mathfrak{e}$  we obtain the modules  $M_b, M_e$ , that together with  $M$  form a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow M_b \rightarrow M \rightarrow M_e \rightarrow 0$$

in mod  $B$ . Using the results from Section 6.1 we know that  $M'$  is obtained from  $M$  by inserting support at vertex  $a$ , so  $M' = (\dots e \rightarrow a \rightarrow b \dots)$ . Moreover, we obtain a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow M'_{b^a} \rightarrow M' \rightarrow M_e \rightarrow 0$$

in mod  $B'$ , where  $M'_{b^a} = (a \rightarrow b \dots)$  is a module over  $B'$  obtained by projecting  $M'$  onto the ray  $\mathfrak{b}_a$  in mod  $B'$ . By Lemma 6.4 we have the following formulas for  $s(M)$  and  $s(M')$  that correspond to the given short exact sequences.

$$s(M) = s(M_e)s(M_b) - s(\tilde{M}_e)s(\overline{M}_b) \quad s(M') = s(M_e)s(M'_{b^a}) - s(\tilde{M}_e)s(\overline{M}'_{b^a})$$

Observe that  $\overline{M}'_{b^a} \cong M_b$ , because it is the maximal submodule of  $M'_{b^a}$  that is not supported on  $a$ . Note that here we think of  $M_b$  as a module over both  $B$  and  $B'$ . Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
s(M') - s(M) &= s(M_e)(s(M'_{b^a}) - s(M_b)) - s(\tilde{M}_e)(s(M_b) - s(\overline{M}_b)) \\
&= (s(M_e) - s(\tilde{M}_e))(s(M'_{b^a}) - s(M_b)) \\
&= (s(M'_{e^a}) - s(M_e))(s(M'_{b^a}) - s(M_b)) \\
&= (s(M_{e^a}) - 2s(M_e))(s(M_{b_a}) - 2s(M_b)) \\
&= (s(\pi_2^+(M)) - 2s(\pi_1^+(M)))(s(\pi_2^-(M)) - 2s(\pi_1^-(M)))
\end{aligned}$$

where the second equality follows from Remark 6.5(b) with  $M = M'_{b^a}$  and  $M_y = M_b$ . The third equality follows from Remark 6.5(a) with  $M = M'_{e^a} = (\dots e \rightarrow a)$ , the projection of  $M'$  onto the ray  $e_a$  in  $B'$ , and  $M_x = M_e$ . Next we justify the fourth equality. The modules  $M_{e^a} = (\dots e \leftarrow a)$ ,  $M_{b_a} = (a \leftarrow b \rightarrow \dots)$  are projections of  $M$  onto the rays  $\mathfrak{e}^a, \mathfrak{b}_a$  respectively. By Lemma 6.6 first setting  $M_x = M_e$ ,  $M_{x_y} = M'_{e^a}$ ,  $M_{x^z} = M_{e^a}$  and then setting  $M_x = M_b$ ,  $M_{x_y} = M_{b_a}$ ,  $M_{x^z} = M'_{b^a}$ , it follows that

$$s(M'_{e^a}) - s(M_e) = s(M_{e^a}) - 2s(M_e) \quad s(M'_{b^a}) - s(M_b) = s(M_{b_a}) - 2s(M_b)$$

which implies the fourth equality. This completes the proof of the theorem in the case  $M \in \mathcal{B} \cap \mathcal{E}$  while the case  $M \in \mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{D}$  can be shown in a similar way.

Suppose  $M \in \overline{\mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{E}}$ . First, we assume that  $M \in \mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{E}$  then  $M = (\dots e \leftarrow a \rightarrow c \dots)$ . Thus there exists a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow M_e \oplus M_c \rightarrow M \rightarrow S_a \rightarrow 0$$

in mod  $B$  where  $M_e, M_c$  are projections of  $M$  onto the sectional paths  $\epsilon, c$  respectively. As discussed in section 6.1 the module  $M'$  is obtained from  $M$  by reversing the arrows incident with  $a$ , so  $M' = (\dots e \rightarrow a \leftarrow c \dots)$ . Therefore, we have a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow S_a \rightarrow M' \rightarrow M_e \oplus M_c \rightarrow 0$$

in mod  $B'$ . By Lemma 6.2 and Lemma 6.3 respectively, we obtain the following formulas for  $s(M)$  and  $s(M')$ .

$$s(M) = s(M_e)s(M_c) + s(\tilde{M}_e)s(\tilde{M}_c) \quad s(M') = s(M_e)s(M_c) + s(\overline{M}_e)s(\overline{M}_c)$$

By Remark 6.5(b)

$$s(\tilde{M}_e) = s(M_{e^a}) - s(M_e) \quad s(\tilde{M}_c) = s(M_{c^a}) - s(M_c)$$

and, similarly, by the same remark we have

$$s(\overline{M}_e) = 2s(M_e) - s(M_{e^a}) \quad s(\overline{M}_c) = 2s(M_c) - s(M_{c^a}).$$

Therefore, combining the results above we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} s(M) - s(M') &= s(\tilde{M}_e)s(\tilde{M}_c) - s(\overline{M}_e)s(\overline{M}_c) \\ &= (s(M_{e^a}) - s(M_e))(s(M_{c^a}) - s(M_c)) - (2s(M_e) - s(M_{e^a}))(2s(M_c) - s(M_{c^a})) \\ &= s(M_{e^a})s(M_c) + s(M_{c^a})s(M_e) - 3s(M_e)s(M_c) \\ &= s(\pi_s^\downarrow(M))s(\pi_p^\downarrow(M)) + s(\pi_s^\uparrow(M))s(\pi_p^\uparrow(M)) - 3s(\pi_p^\downarrow(M))s(\pi_p^\uparrow(M)) \end{aligned}$$

which yields the desired conclusion.

If  $M$  equals  $P_a[1]$  or  $S_a$  then  $M'$  equals  $S_a$  or  $P_a[1]$  respectively, and it follows from Example 6.11 that  $\delta_a$  is well defined in this case. Evaluating  $s(M) - s(M')$  at  $P_a[1], S_a$  respectively we obtain  $-1, 1$  and it is easy to see that this agrees with the formula for  $\delta_a(M)$  provided in the theorem.

Now assume that  $M \in \epsilon$  and  $M \neq P_a[1]$ , then  $M = (\dots e)$  and  $M' = (\dots e \rightarrow a)$  is obtained from  $M_e$  by adding support at  $a$ . By Lemma 6.6 we have that

$$s(M) - s(M') = s(M_{e^a}) - 2s(M).$$

On the other hand it follows from Example 6.11 that

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_a(M) &= s(\pi_s^\downarrow(M))s(\pi_p^\downarrow(M)) + s(\pi_s^\uparrow(M))s(\pi_p^\uparrow(M)) - 3s(\pi_p^\downarrow(M))s(\pi_p^\uparrow(M)) \\ &= s(M_{e^a}) + s(M) - 3s(M) \\ &= s(M) - s(M') \end{aligned}$$

which shows that the formula holds in this case.

Now assume that  $M \in c^a$  and  $M \neq S_a$ , then  $M = (\dots c \leftarrow a)$  and  $M' = (\dots c)$  is obtained from  $M$  by removing support at  $a$ . Note that  $M' = M_c$  the projection of  $M$  onto the ray  $c$ . According to the statement of the theorem we have

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_a(M) &= s(\pi_s^\downarrow(M))s(\pi_p^\downarrow(M)) + s(\pi_s^\uparrow(M))s(\pi_p^\uparrow(M)) - 3s(\pi_p^\downarrow(M))s(\pi_p^\uparrow(M)) \\ &= s(S_a)s(M_c) + s(M)s(P_b[1]) - 3s(M_c)s(P_b[1]) \\ &= 2s(M') + s(M) - 3s(M') \\ &= s(M) - s(M') \end{aligned}$$

which shows that the formula holds in this case. For  $M$  lying on  $c$  and  $\epsilon^a$  we can apply the same argument as above. Similar reasoning also shows that the theorem holds when  $M \in \mathcal{B} \cap \mathcal{D}$ .

Finally, if  $M \in \mathcal{F}$  we know that  $M$  equals  $M'$ , hence  $\delta_a(M) = 0$ . This completes the proof of the theorem.  $\square$

Note, that given a frieze and an indecomposable  $M$  in one of the six regions  $\mathcal{X} \cap \mathcal{Y}$ , it is easy to locate the entries required to compute the frieze difference  $\delta_a(M)$ . We simply need to find projections onto the appropriate rays in the frieze. In this way, we do not need to know the precise shape of the modules appearing in the formulas of Theorem 6.12.

*Example 6.13.* Let  $\mathcal{C}_f$  be the category given in Example 5.3. We consider three possibilities for  $M$  below.

If  $M = \begin{smallmatrix} 3 \\ 8 \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} 9 \\ 5 \end{smallmatrix}$  then we know by Figure 8 that  $s(M) = 12$  and  $s(M') = 8$ . On the other hand, we see from Figure 7 that  $M \in \mathcal{B} \cap \mathcal{C}$ . Theorem 6.12 implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_a(M) &= s(M) - s(M') = (s(M_{b_a}) - s(M_b))(s(M_{c^a}) - s(M_c)) \\ &= (s(\begin{smallmatrix} 3 \\ 8 \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \end{smallmatrix}) - s(\begin{smallmatrix} 3 \\ 8 \end{smallmatrix})) (s(\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \ 9 \\ 5 \end{smallmatrix}) - s(\begin{smallmatrix} 9 \\ 5 \end{smallmatrix})) \\ &= (5 - 3)(5 - 3) = 4. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, if  $M = \begin{smallmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} 6 \\ 8 \end{smallmatrix}$ , then  $M \in \mathcal{B} \cap \mathcal{E}$  with  $s(M) = 7$  and  $s(M') = 9$ . The same theorem implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_a(M) &= s(M) - s(M') = -(s(M_{e^a}) - 2s(M_e))(s(M_{b^a}) - 2s(M_b)) \\ &= -(s(\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{smallmatrix}) - 2s(\begin{smallmatrix} 2 \\ 6 \end{smallmatrix}))(s(\begin{smallmatrix} 3 \\ 8 \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \end{smallmatrix}) - 2s(\begin{smallmatrix} 3 \\ 8 \end{smallmatrix})) \\ &= -(4 - 6)(5 - 6) = -2. \end{aligned}$$

Finally, if  $M = \begin{smallmatrix} 1 \ 7 \\ 5 \ 2 \\ 10 \end{smallmatrix}$ , then  $M \in \mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{E}$ . We also know that  $s(M) = s(M') = 11$ . By the third formula in Theorem 6.12, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_a(M) &= s(M) - s(M') = s(M_{e^a})s(M_c) + s(M_{c^a})s(M_e) - 3s(M_e)s(M_c) \\ &= s(\begin{smallmatrix} 7 \ 1 \\ 2 \end{smallmatrix})s(\begin{smallmatrix} 5 \\ 10 \end{smallmatrix}) + s(\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \end{smallmatrix})s(\begin{smallmatrix} 7 \\ 2 \end{smallmatrix}) - 3s(\begin{smallmatrix} 7 \\ 2 \end{smallmatrix})s(\begin{smallmatrix} 5 \\ 10 \end{smallmatrix}) \\ &= 5 \cdot 3 + 4 \cdot 3 - 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 = 0. \end{aligned}$$

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